

Professor Scott Johnson is full Professor at the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment, based at Western Sydney University, where he leads research on the functional role of silicon in plant biology. He gained his PhD from the University of York in the UK, subsequently working at the University of Reading and the Scottish Crop Research Institute (now the James Hutton Institute) before joining Western Sydney University in 2011. His research focuses on increasing plant resilience to environmental stresses, initially focusing on plant resistance to invertebrate herbivory, but now embracing major abiotic stresses such as drought and global warming. His group explores how predicted changes in our climate, such as increasing concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide, affect silicon accumulation patterns in plants and whether such changes affect plant resilience (e.g. pest susceptibility). His current research projects involve working with farmer groups and stakeholders to develop intervention strategies using silicon supplementation of agroecosystems to provide ecological adaptations to climate change. He has published over 160 scientific papers including in *Nature*, *Ecology Letters* and *Global Change Biology*. Scott has held many Honorary Positions including Vice President of the Royal Entomological Society, a position once held by Charles Darwin, and served in an editorial capacity on many occasions.