**Dr. Asma Akter**

National Geographic Explorer

Research Scientist, Institute of Entomology, Biology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences, České Budějovice, Czech Republic.

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***Research activities:***

As a member of the Laboratory of the Integrative Ecology, I have been involved in the study of pollination ecology with a focus on the impact of changing environment on the plant-pollinator interactions. I am also a National Geographic Explorer and currently working in the mangrove forest which aims to explore the plant-pollinator communities of this forest along with the impact of climate change and anthropogenic activities. From a methodological point of view, my research covers the field and laboratory experimental methods of pollination ecology, pollination biology, entomology, plant reproduction and plant conservation.

***Educational background:***

**2008:** BSc. in Botany, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh.

**2010:** MSc. in Biotechnology, University of Bedfordshire, UK.

**2012:** MSc. in Crop Protection, University of Gottingen, Germany.

**2021:** Ph.D. in Zoology, University of South Bohemia, Czech Republic

***Professional experience:***

**2021-present:** Research Scientist, Institute of Entomology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

**2018-present:** National Geographic Explorer at the National Geographic Society.

**2014-2021:** Doctoral Researcher, Institute of Entomology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

***Grants and awards:***

**2023-2024:** National Geographic Exploring Grant(NGS-96315C-22) (**PI**)

**2021-2022:** National Geographic Exploring Grant(NGS-67804R-20) (**PI**)

**2018-2021: IBERA** mobility grants each year

**2018-2019:** National Geographic Early Career Grant(GR- 000039683) (**PI**)

**Publications**

**11 publications in peer-reviewed journals with IF**

**SCI: 210** (According to SCOPUS), **SCI: 200** (according to Web of Sciences), **SCI: 318** (Google Scholar)

**H-index: 7** (SCOPUS, Google Scholar)

***List of publications:***

**Akter A**, Klecka, J. (2022) Water stress and nitrogen supply affect growth, floral traits, and pollination of the white mustard, *Sinapis alba* (Brassicaceae). ***PeerJ***. e13009. **[IF 2.98]**

Biella P, **Akter A**, Muñoz-Pajares A.J. et al*.* 2021.Investigating pollination strategies in disturbed habitats: the case of the narrow-endemic toadflax *Linaria tonzigii* (Plantaginaceae) on mountain screes. ***Plant Ecol***222,511–523. **[IF 1.83]**

**Akter A**, Biella P, Batáry, P, [Klečka J.](https://www.entu.cas.cz/en/staff/profile/663/) 2020. Changing pollinator communities along a disturbance gradient in the Sundarbans mangrove forest: a case study on *Acanthus ilicifolius* and *Avicennia officinalis*. ***Global Ecology and Conservation***. e01282. **[IF 3.38]**

Biella P, **Akter A,** Ollerton J, Janeček Š, Nielsen A, Klecka J. 2020. An empirical attack tolerance test alters the structure and species richness of plant-pollinator networks. ***Functional Ecology*** 34(1875). **[IF 5.04]**

Geppert C, Hass A, Földesi R, Donkó B, **Akter A**, Tscharntke T, Batáry P. 2020. Agri-environment schemes enhance pollinator richness and abundance but bumblebee reproduction depends on field size. ***Journal of Applied Ecology*** 2020; 57: 1818– 1828. **[IF 5.71]**

Biella P, **Akter A**, Ollerton J, Tarrant S, Janeček Š, Jersáková J, Klečka J. 2019. Experimental loss of generalist plants reveals alterations in plant-pollinator interactions and a constrained flexibility of foraging*.* ***Scientific Reports*** 9: article number: 7376. **[IF 4.37]**

Biella P, Tommasi N, **Akter A**, Guzzetti L, Klečka J, Sandionigi A, Labra M, Galimberti A. 2019. Foraging strategies are maintained despite workforce reduction: A multidisciplinary survey on the pollen collected by a social pollinator. ***PLoS ONE*** 14: e0224037. **[IF 2.86]**

Klečka J, Hadrava J, Biella P, **Akter A.** 2018. Flower visitation by hoverflies (Diptera: Syrphidae) in a temperate plant-pollinator network. ***PeerJ*** **6**: e6025. **[IF 2.98]**

**Akter A**, Biella P, [Klečka J](https://www.entu.cas.cz/en/staff/profile/663/). 2017. Effects of small-scale clustering of flowers on pollinator foraging behaviour and flower visitation rate. ***PloS ONE*** **12**: e0187976. **[IF 3.24]**

***Selected International Conferences:***

**2020:** Interactive effect of temperature, water and N2 deposition on the morphology, phenology and pollination of *Sinapis alba.* (Poster presented at the EcoFlor meeting in Bilbao, Spain)

**2019:** Impact of non-native plant integration into the structure of native plant pollinator networks. (Poster presentation at the British Ecological Society Annual meeting 2019 in Belfast, UK)

**2018:** Impact of habitat loss and increasing anthropogenic activities on plant-pollinator interactions and plant reproduction: a study in the Sundarbans Mangrove forest. (Oral presentation in the 2018 meeting of Ecological Society of Australia, Brisbane, Australia)

**2018-** Increasing habitat loss and anthropogenic activities in the Sundarbans: Can plant-pollinator community sustain the threat? (Oral presentation in the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Scandinavian Association for Pollination Ecology, Dublin, Ireland)

**2017:** Impact of climate changing factors on phenology and pollination of *Sinapis alba.* (Poster presented at the SCAPE meeting in Drobak, Norway)

**2016:** Effect of flowering plant density and variation of flower number on pollinator visitation of *Dracocephalum moldavica*. (Poster presented at the SCAPE meeting in Abisko, Sweden)

**2015:** Effect of experimental plant invasions on the structure of plant pollinator networks. (Poster presentation at the Symposium of Ecological networks in Bristol, UK)

***Other professional activities:***

Leading the iNaturalist team in Ceske Budejovice to explore the biodiversity under the River BioBlitz Program

Member of the Alpine Flora Bargamasca Society in Italy