



CURRICULUM VITAE

FIONNUALA H. O'NEILL

B.Sc. (Hons.), Dip. Comp. Sc., H. Dip. Appl. Sc., Ph.D., MIEEM

EDUCATION

- 1997 – 2003 University College, Cork.
Ph.D. Regeneration of native oak woodland following *Rhododendron ponticum* L. clearance from Glengarriff Woods Nature Reserve, Co. Cork, Ireland.
- 1996 – 1997 University College, Cork.
H. Dip. in Applied Science (1st Class Honours).
- 1989 – 1990 University College, Cork.
Dip. in Computer Science (1st Class Honours).
- 1985 – 1989 University College, Cork.
B.Sc. (Plant Science) (2.1).

CAREER HISTORY

Senior Ecologist, BEC Consultants. April 2007–present (full-time); April–September 2005 and May–September 2006 (contract ecologist).

Lead ecologist for the Irish Semi-natural Grasslands Survey. Project leader for the digitisation of sites surveyed during the National Survey of Native Woodlands. Involved in detailed botanical surveys for various projects, principally the Irish Semi-natural Grasslands Survey and National Survey of Native Woodlands. Additional elements include arranging access for surveys, the collection of samples for further analysis and the identification of retained specimens, particularly bryophytes, as well as data entry and quality control, and assessment of conservation criteria for surveyed sites. Other key responsibilities include final report review /editing, GIS mapping and database design.

Ecologist, Atkins, Cork. January–March 06 and October 2006–March 07.

Phase I habitat survey, mapping, site evaluation, impact assessment and recommendation of mitigation measures; report-writing and preparation of habitat/botanical sections of Environmental Impact Statements.

Course Co-ordinator, University College, Cork. September 2004–January 2005.

Co-ordinated distance learning courses in Field Ecology (Diploma) and Biodiversity Components of Forestry (Certificate); duties included project supervision and assessment.

Occasional/Part-time lecturer, various employers. 1999–Present.

Over the past number of years I have participated in teaching on university degree and diploma courses (primarily night programmes for mature students), including modules in biodiversity and conservation, factors affecting distribution of organisms, plant structure/evolution, and a varied range of habitats such as Bogs, Fens, Turloughs and Woodlands. I have conducted field trips or assisted other lecturers with theirs in a variety of habitats on many occasions. In addition I lecture on botany and plant chemistry and teach plant identification skills to student medical herbalists.

Computer Instructor, Nyumba ya Sanaa, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. April 1995–July 1996.

Volunteer posting under the auspices of Agency for Personal Services Overseas (APSO). Instructed staff in the use of computers and computer applications such as WordPerfect and Lotus 1-2-3; facilitated the transfer of manual accounts to computer.

Computer Programmer/Analyst, Kerry Group, Tralee. August 1990–January 1995.

Duties included maintenance and support of existing in-house software (written in COBOL and SQL/Oracle database on DOS-based and Unix-based operating systems), programming of new modules, network administration (1994-5), provision of technical support to staff on all aspects of IT, including word processing (WordPerfect) and spreadsheet (Lotus 1-2-3).

SKILLS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Communication & Interpersonal Skills

- Excellent report writing skills.
- Public speaking experience through presentation of papers at conferences.
- Teaching skills acquired in the course of lecturing both to mature students and to undergraduates. Several of my lectures are to individuals with little or no knowledge of botany or ecology, so it is particularly important to explain basic concepts and put information across in an understandable format.
- I work successfully as an individual and as a leader and have trained a number of ecologists in woodland and grassland surveying and plant species identification.
- I work well within a team, having worked on major team-driven projects during my time as a computer programmer, and latterly in the course of my time with BEC Consultants.

Computer Skills

- My recent work and studies have given me a high level of proficiency in data analysis, GIS mapping and accurate data entry.
- My former work as a computer programmer/analyst has trained me in logical skills that can be carried forward to newer computer applications.
- I am highly experienced in the use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and also have a good working knowledge of Microsoft Access, ArcView GIS and DataDesk.

Driving

- Full clean driving licence.

Identification Skills

- Excellent plant identification skills, including vascular and bryophyte species.
- Experience in identifying Carabids (ground beetles) to species and other invertebrate groups, including spiders and beetles, to family.

Membership of Professional Organisations

- Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM) (Full member). Membership requires adherence to a professional code of conduct and commitment to a programme of continuing professional development.
- Botanical Society of the British Isles (BSBI) (Ordinary member).
- British Bryological Society (Ordinary member).

PUBLICATIONS

O'Neill, F.H., Martin, J.R., Devaney, F.M., McNutt, K.E., Perrin, P.M. & Delaney, A. (2010) *Irish Semi-natural Grasslands Survey Annual Report No. 3: Counties Donegal, Dublin, Kildare & Sligo*. Unpublished report submitted to the National Parks & Wildlife Service.

O'Neill, F.H., Martin, J.R., Perrin, P.M., Delaney, A., McNutt, K.E. & Devaney, F.M. (2009) *Irish Semi-natural Grasslands Survey Annual Report No. 2: Counties Cavan, Leitrim, Longford & Monaghan*. Unpublished report submitted to the National Parks & Wildlife Service.

O'Neill, F. (2009) *Calyptrochaeta apiculata* (Southern Hookeria): first Irish record confirmed in Co. Cork. *Field Bryology* **98**:28-29.

Martin, J.R., Perrin, P.M., Delaney, A.M., **O'Neill, F.H.** & McNutt, K.E. (2008) *Irish Semi-Natural Grasslands Survey Annual Report No. 1: Counties Cork & Waterford*. Unpublished report submitted to the National Parks & Wildlife Service.

Perrin, P., Martin, J., Barron, S., **O'Neill, F.**, McNutt, K. & Delaney, A. (2008) *National Survey of Native Woodlands 2003-2008* (2 Volumes). Unpublished report submitted to the National Parks & Wildlife Service.

O'Neill, F.H., Perrin, P.M. & Barron, S.J. (2008). *Ballyseedy Wood: A 50-year management plan*. Unpublished report submitted to Kerry County Council.