

Introduction

Forensic entomology is a field of forensic science which involves the scientific study of insects and other arthropods in a legal context, this can include using the insects to help:

- Provide an estimation of the post-mortem interval (PMI), or the minimum amount of time that has elapsed between insect colonisation and when the body was discovered (PMI_{min}) (Amendt et al., 2004; Villet et al., 2010).
- Victim identification (de Lourdes Chávez-Briones et al., 2013).
- Both human and animal neglect where the victims can be both alive or deceased (Benecke and Lessig, 2001; McGarry et al., 2018).
- Detect drugs in decomposing tissues (Carvalho et al., 2001).

While forensic entomology is a small and niche part of forensic science it is a vital part none the less, and should be delivered as such on a Forensic Science course. This pilot study aimed to give a brief overview of the teaching and research into Forensic Entomology within the UK, from a prospective student's point of view. Both undergraduate and postgraduate courses were reviewed and evaluated, as well as any available data on current UK registered forensic entomologists was gathered. It also looked at completed PhD's and any published journal articles again with a entomological focus.

