



## Ruan Veldtman

PhD (Entomology) University of Pretoria

Tel: +27 21 799 8870

Fax +27 21 797 6903

e-mail [Veldtman@sanbi.org](mailto:Veldtman@sanbi.org)



**BIODIVERSITY  
ECOSYSTEM  
SERVICES  
PROGRAMME**

### ***Activities and Research Interests***

*Research on pollination ecosystem services, investigating the services that insect pollinators provide to human beings. Other interests: Biological control agents of invasive plants, wild silkmoth ecology, galling-insect diversity, and conservation in agricultural settings.*

Ruan Veldtman upgraded his M.Sc. in 2002 at the Department of Zoology & Entomology, University of Pretoria. His thesis investigated the ecology of southern African wild silkmoths and the implications thereof for sustainable use. He completed his Ph.D. in 2004, after which he joined the Centre for Invasion Biology at Stellenbosch University as a post-doctoral fellow from 2005 to 2006 (funded by the Claude Leon Foundation). During this time he also collaborated with Dr. Angela Moles (Macquarie University, Australia) on the World Herbivory Project. Currently Ruan has a diversified subject interest and is collaborating on several projects related to insect ecology.

### **Publications**

- Veldtman, R., McGeoch, M.A. & Scholtz, C.H. (in press). Can life history and defence traits predict the population dynamics and natural enemy responses of insect herbivores? *Ecological Entomology*.
- Veldtman, R., McGeoch, M.A. & Scholtz, C.H. (2007). Fine-scale abundance and distribution of wild silk moth pupae. *Bulletin of Entomological Research*. 97, 15-27.

- Procheş, Ş., Wilson, J.R.U., Veldtman, R., Kalwij, J.M., Richardson, D.M. & Chown, S.L. (2005) Landscape Corridors: Possible Dangers? *Science* 310 (5749), 778-779.
- Veldtman, R. & McGeoch, M.A. 2004. Spatially explicit host parasitoid relationships: density dependence revisited. *Proceedings of the Royal Society London B*. 271(1556), 2439-2444.
- Veldtman, R., McGeoch, M.A. & Scholtz, C.H. 2004. Parasitoids of southern African wild silk moths (Lepidoptera). *African Entomology* 12(1), 119-124.
- Veldtman, R. & McGeoch, M.A. 2003. Gall-ing-insect species richness along a non-scleromorphic vegetation gradient in South Africa: a test of the hygrothermal stress hypothesis. *Austral Ecology* 28, 1-13.  
\*\*\*This article was ranked first in the Blackwell Synergy report of the 10 most for most highly accessed Austral Ecology articles in Vol. 28 (accessed from 1 January to 19 November 2003) that were published in 2003.
- Veldtman, R., McGeoch, M.A. & Scholtz, C.H. 2002. Variability in cocoon size in southern African wild silk moths: implications for sustainable harvesting. *African Entomology* 10(1), 127-136.