

PAUL FAUCHON



Nationality: French
Starting-Ending year:
2024-2027

Current Country Location:

France
(Montpellier & Martinique)

Bachelor's degree:

Engineer school in
Agronomy and Environment

Master's degree:

M2 AAE (Mention AETPF)
"From Agronomy to
Agroecology"
(AgroParisTech &
Université Paris-Saclay)

PhD program in progress:

Functional Ecology &
Agronomic Science on
Agrobiodiversity, Trait-Based
Agroecology & Agroforestry

Institution/University:

CIRAD UMR ABSys, CIRAD
UPR Hortsys and Alliance
Biodiversity International &
CIAT



What is agrobiodiversity for you?

The diversity between and among species present in agroecosystems—whether cultivated, associated, spontaneous, wild or weedy—but also the diversity of the agroecosystems themselves. A subset of biodiversity, yet also an extension of it through the creation and selection of new cultivars, breeds, and hybrids. Agrobiodiversity is the bridge between Nature and Culture, in a quite literal sense.

Why did you choose to work on this topic?

I decided to work in this field for many reasons, but they all connect to the idea of finding the keys to live in, with, and even as the world—sustainably. Agrobiodiversity is the embodiment of the link between our own traits (cultures) and the living world, of which we are a part, and not apart. It is also very likely a solutions to many of our current problems.

What do you expect to achieve with this master/PhD?

What I hope to demonstrate with this PhD is that agrobiodiversity is both relevant and necessary for imagining and practicing sustainable agriculture. More specifically, I aim to show that the diversity of species within an agroecosystem can be correlated with the provision of bundles of Nature's Contributions to People—while keeping in mind that Nature is not only here to serve us, but that we also hold moral obligations towards her. I also want to explore how trait-based approaches can help explain the effects of biodiversity on the functioning of agroecosystems.

