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## What's bugging you? Alberta insect experts available

The University of Lethbridge hosted the Entomological Society of Alberta annual conference virtually on Friday, Oct. 21 with entomologists from across the province. Dr. Dan Johnson, the society's president, a ULeithbridge professor and insect expert, says the expertise of these entomologists is invaluable to understanding and solving environmental challenges, as well as providing research in support of agricultural producers and conservation agencies in Alberta.

Some of the topics covered during the conference include the following:

- The rise and fall of bumble bees in Alberta
- How queen bees retain their crowns
- Dine and dash — how the presence of predators affects pollinator behaviour on flowers
- Spiders in prairie ecosystems, including canola fields
- Ups and downs of populations of various kinds of insects in Alberta

For more information on the above and many more current topics concerning insects and their allies, visit the [Entomological Society of Alberta](#) for the full [schedule of talks](#) during the conference. Interested media can contact Johnson to be connected with the appropriate expert:

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