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University of Oklahoma

11/13/2017

OU Researchers Harness Methane Consuming Microbes



NORMAN —A University of Oklahoma research team, led by OU Professor Lee Krumholz, is studying methane-consuming microbes from extreme environments that can be re-engineered for industrial applications, such as biodegradable plastics and electricity. OU's role in the collaborative study with South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and Montana State University is to collect microbial samples from extreme environmental sites and to extract DNA and RNA to determine the microbial community composition and the microbial activities that pertain to methane consumption.

OU Collaborators on These Projects

Andy Madden CP SG&G Amy Callaghan – MPB Krithi Sankaranarayanan – MPB Patrick McCann – ECE Xiaolei Liu – CP SG&G

Other Universities

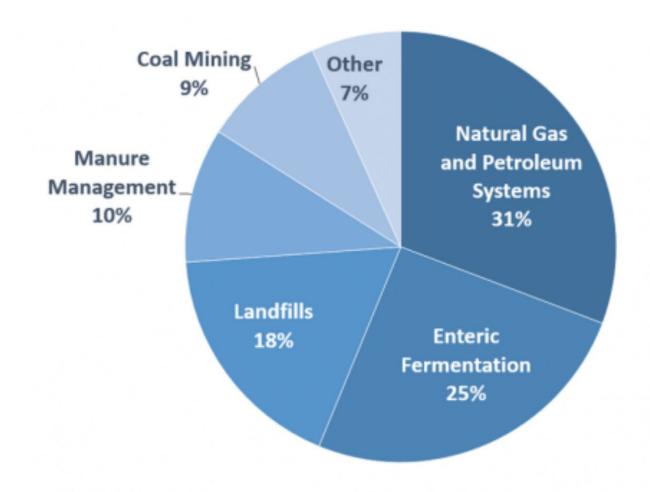
South Dakota School of Mines & Technology Montana State University

Goals:

 Determine the microbial community composition of methane oxidizing microbial systems.

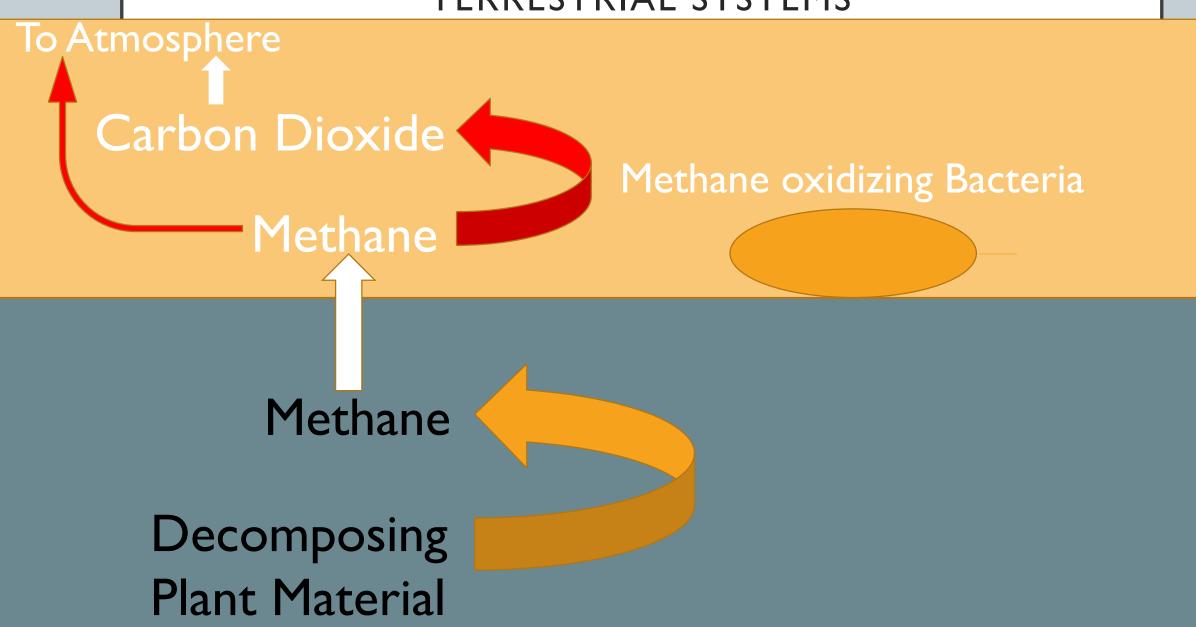
 Isolate novel methane oxidizing bacteria.

2015 U.S. Methane Emissions, By Source



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2017). Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2015.

METHANE MOVEMENT IN AQUATIC AND TERRESTRIAL SYSTEMS









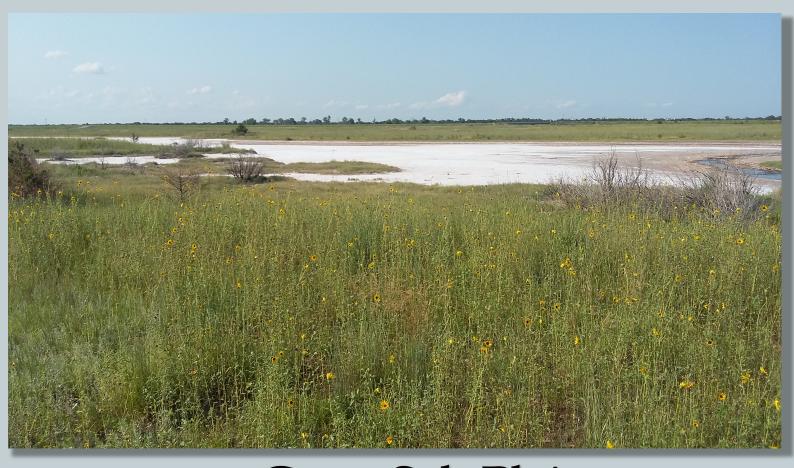
Duck Pond

Honey Creek

Lake Thunderbird



Norman Landfill



Great Salt Plains







Zodletone Spring: near Mountain View, OK



Sanford Underground Research Facility: SD Yellowstone National Park



OU Professors to Lead Global Research on Bluegreen Algae in Freshwaters

By Jana Smith

OU professors will lead a global research team to study freshwater toxic bluegreen algae blooms, which threaten freshwater lakes and pose substantial health risks to humans, pets, livestock and wildlife.

10/26/18

NORMAN—University of Oklahoma professors, Karl D. Hambright and Lee R. Krumholz, will lead a global research team to study one of the most common environmental problems—freshwater toxic cyanobacteria (bluegreen algae) blooms, which threaten freshwater lakes and pose substantial health risks to humans, pets, livestock and wildlife. The group will address the fundamental interactions between cyanobacteria and other bacteria co-occurring with the blooms.

OU Collaborators on These Projects

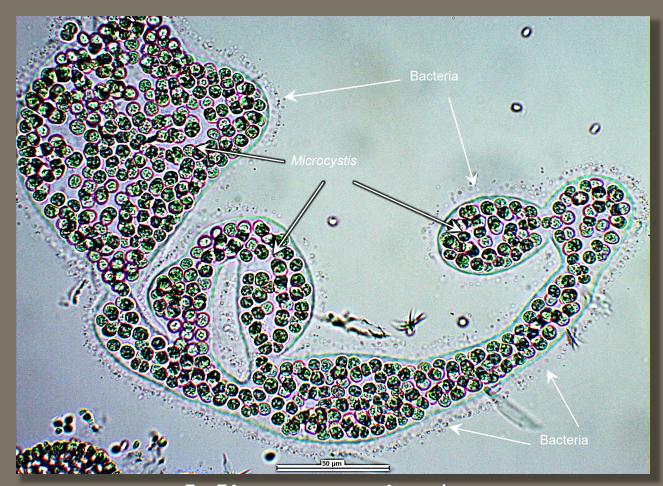
K. David Hambright -Biology

Other Universities
Auburn University
University of North Carolina
James Madison University

HABS in Oklahoma?

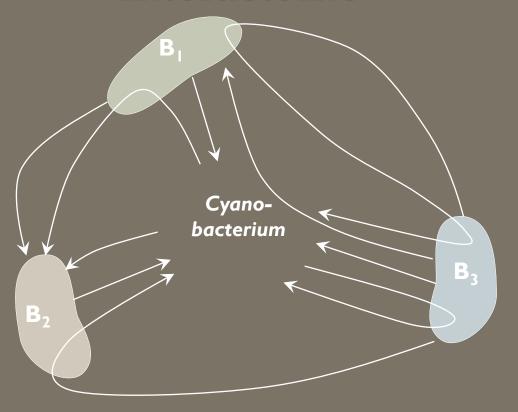


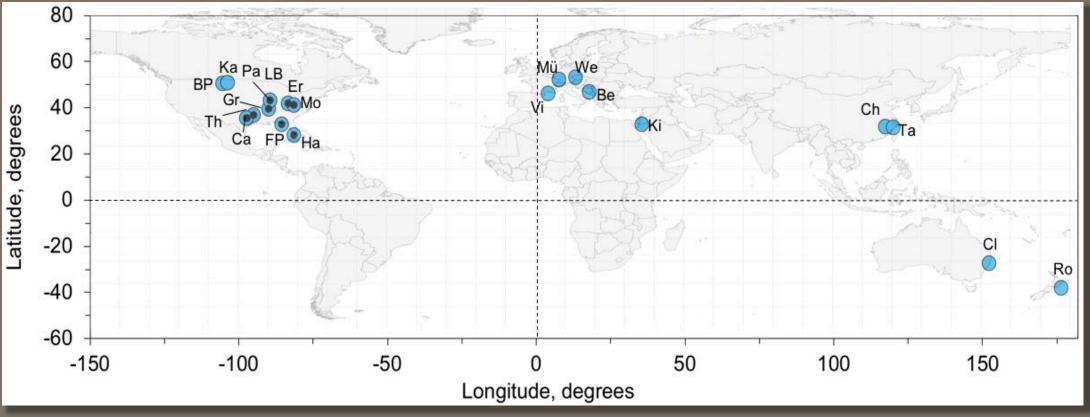




Microcystis Aggregate

Hypothesized Cyanobacterium Interactome





BP - Buffalo Pound

Ka – Katepwa

Ca - Castlerock Pond

LT - Lake Thunderbird

Gr - Grand Lake;

Pa – Palmyra-Modesto Lake

LB – Lake Barney

FP - Fish Pond 23

Er – Lake Erie

Ha – Lake Hatchineha

Mo - Mogadore Reservoir

Vi – Lac de Villerest

Mü – Münster

We - Wentowsee

Be – Belső-tó

Ki – Kinneret

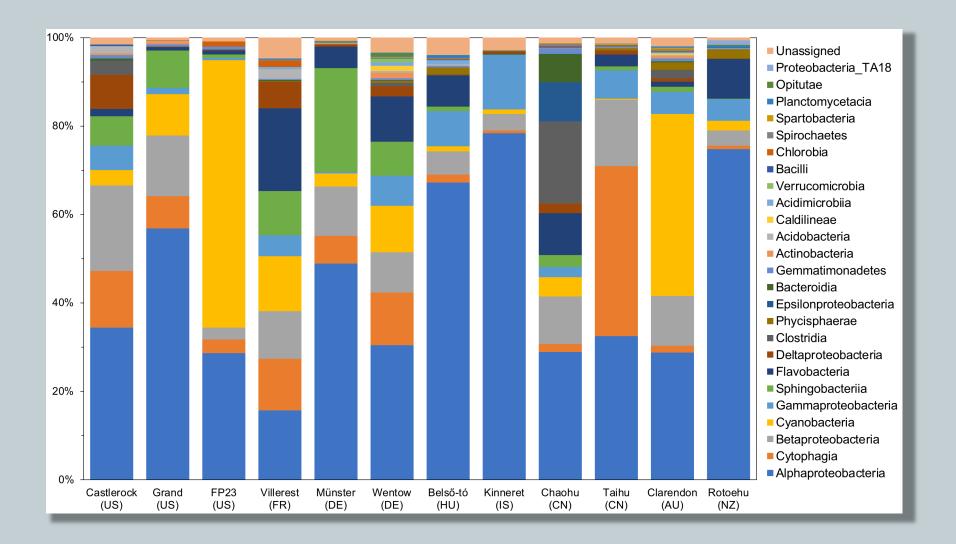
Ch - Chaohu

<u>Ta – Taihu</u>

Cl - Clarendon

Ro - Rotoehu

<u>Unidentified Auburn Fish Pond</u> (not shown)



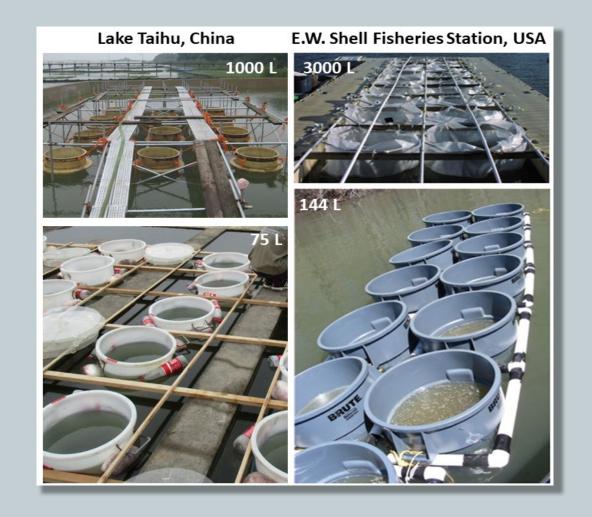


Fig. 6. Mesocosm facilities at Lake Taihu (Paerl) and Auburn's E.W. Shell Fisheries Station (Wilson).