

Summary: H. Randall Yoder, Parasites

Dr. Yoder earned his Ph.D. in Biology in 1998 from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He is an Associate Professor of Biology at Lamar University. A few of the courses he teaches are General Biology I and II, Parasitology, Embryology and Development, Integrated Sciences Biology for Teachers and Biological Literature I and II.

Yoder is a Director of the Big Thicket Association, a past Co-Chair of the Thicket of Diversity, and a long time active member of the ToD Science Committee. Although Yoder has not formally presented a project with the Thicket of Diversity, he is active in its promotion and environmental education. He helps with the ToD booth at the annual Big Thicket Days, and in January 2026, Yoder shared a presentation with the public on Parasites in the Big Thicket through the local Golden Triangle Sierra Club.

Dr. Yoder is largely interested in parasite ecology and parasite-host interactions and has focused mostly on the assemblages of parasites in aquatic and semi-aquatic, ectothermic hosts. His doctoral dissertation focused on parasite communities in several sympatric amphibians and trematodes in a population of snails. Since coming to Texas, he has worked on a variety of parasite-host systems in the Big Thicket ecoregion. This has included parasites of amphibians (bullfrogs) and reptiles (most recently turtles) and invertebrates (snails and crayfish) but has focused especially on parasites of fishes. Yoder has many publications to his credit.

Submitted by:

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