

Ben Lemmond

Ben Lemmond is a PhD candidate in Matthew Smith's lab at the University of Florida, where he studies the biodiversity and ecology of truffle fungi. Ben is originally from Charlotte, North Carolina, and developed a fondness for the natural world from an early age through frequent backpacking adventures in the southern Appalachians and sailing in the coastal waters of the Carolinas. He first encountered academic biology as an undergraduate student at The Evergreen State College, and later pursued a M.S. degree in Plant Biology the University of Vermont in the Field Naturalist program. Ben hopes that his PhD work will provide some new insights into the ecology, systematics, and cultivation potential of North American edible truffles.