

Dr. Alex Boon (PhD BSc)

Freelance scientific copy-editor

3 Rosedale Terrace, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2SP, UK
Mob: +44 (0)7701056131 Email: alexbooneditor@gmail.com
www.soilscienceediting.com alex@soilscienceediting.com

Profile

I am a freelance English language editor with a passion for the effective communication of the natural sciences. I have substantial copy-editing experience, focusing mainly on journal manuscripts in the field of soil and agricultural sciences, usually written by authors with English as a second language. I have edited pre- and post-submission journal articles, lectures and presentations, abstracts and conference proceedings, and grant proposals. I have a strong environmental science background as a postdoctoral research assistant in the Departments of Agriculture and Meteorology and a PhD from the Department of Geography and Environmental Science, University of Reading.

Skills

• **Editorial**

- Considerable paid experience as an academic editor of journal manuscripts, having edited hundreds of pre-submission manuscripts to date
- Confident copy-editing skills with a strong understanding of good sentence structure
- Ability to follow house style guides and copy-edit accepted articles prior to production
- Experience in scientific peer review on both a paid and unpaid basis
- High proficiency in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and EndNote citation software
- Substantial experience with track-changes in Microsoft Word
- An editing rate of between 1,000 to 2,000 words an hour depending on the author's English standard
- A pleasant and polite manner when leaving comments to authors
- Exceptional time management and deadline adherence
- Experienced, self-motivated and independent freelancer

• **Knowledge**

- Strong background in soil and agricultural science from BSc to PhD level
- Two publications in international soil science journals and a third in a leading atmospheric sciences journal
- Over two years of sessional lecturing experience in soil carbon, soil physics, practical field techniques and environmental chemistry
- Postdoctoral experience in atmospheric sciences climate smart agriculture in two world-leading departments
- Excellent understanding of scientific terminology and its correct usage
- Experience in the correct presentation of data in clear figures with appropriate statistics
- Proven ability to translate knowledge into accessible formats for different audiences

Employment

Soil Science Editing / Alex Boon Editor. Freelance English Language Editorial Services. (December 2014–Present)

I edit journal manuscripts for authors with English as a second language, currently receiving most of my regular work from Edanz Group (Global) and Accdon LLC (US). I work with LucidPapers (UK), Cambridge Editing (Japan), NAI (Japan) and MogoEdit (China) and also accept work direct from authors and publishers through my website www.soilscienceediting.com. I am also a freelance copy-editor for the CSIRO (Australia) journal *Soil Research*. I work on the AgShare.today project, which provides communication and publishing services to researchers on Bill and Melinda Gates-funded agricultural projects in Africa. My focus is in manuscripts in soil science, agronomy, agriculture, atmospheric science and meteorology, physical geography, and environmental sciences. I also conduct paid review, mentoring, journal selection, copy-writing and press releases among other publishing services.

University of Reading

Sessional lecturer in Environmental Science (August 2015–May 2016)

Research Assistant, Climate Smart Agriculture Booster (August 2015–December 2015)

I worked in the Education and Co-Creation hub of the EU (Climate-KIC) Climate Smart Agriculture Booster project. My main focus on this short work-package was to develop written material for an online course on the topic of climate smart agriculture. I also lectured on topics in soil sciences including soil physics, soil carbon cycling, soil conservation in agriculture and environmental chemistry.

PDRA and Knowledge-Exchange Co-ordinator for the ACTUAL project (July 2013–March 2015)

This research focused on dispersion of greenhouse gases in the urban environment. I was responsible for the dissemination of results from the ACTUAL project to policy and industry stakeholders and the public. I also produced material for the Walker Institute's Climate Change MOOC (Massively Open Online Course).

National Centre for Earth Observation (August 2012–May 2014)

Service Development Researcher

This research examined greenhouse gas concentration data from four measurement sites in London, undertaken with commercial partners Astrium Services SAS. This research has now been published in *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics*.

University Education

University of Reading and Rothamsted Research, North Wyke (2008–2012)

PhD Soil Science: Peatland habitats as sources and controls of greenhouse gases

I studied the influence of chemical and physical aspects of peat grassland soil on greenhouse gas emissions from the soil surface. This provided a strong background in both soil and atmospheric sciences.

University of Reading (2005–2008)

BSc (hons) 1st Class: Rural Environmental Science

This degree included modules on soil physics and biology, cropping and livestock systems, organic farming, climate change, statistics, mathematics, environmental impact assessment and conservation.

Other Education

Strode's College, Egham and Collingwood College, Camberley

A level Geography (A), English (B), Art and Design (B)

AS level Mathematics (B) and Environmental Science (A)

11 GCSE passes (A–C grade)

Publications and Outputs

- **Refereed publications**

Gas diffusion coefficient of a UK peat grassland soil. 2013. Boon, A., Nightingale, P.D., Cardenas, L., Robinson, J.S., Chadwick, D., Verhoef, A. *European Journal of Soil Science* **64**: 681–687.

Surface emissions and subsurface concentrations of greenhouse gases respond to addition of cattle urine on a UK peatland soil. 2014. Boon, A., Robinson, J.S., Chadwick, D., Cardenas, L. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* **186**: 23–32.

Evaluation of the potential of rooftop measurements of CO₂ and CH₄ in London, UK for the monitoring of city-scale emissions using an atmospheric transport model. 2016. Boon, A., Broquet, G., Clifford, D., Butterfield, D., Chevallier, F., Pison, I., Ramonet, M., Paris, J.D., Ciais, P. *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics* **16**: 6735–6756.

- **Selected conference presentations and posters**

Presentation. “Sustainable Adaptation of Buildings to a Warmer London Climate; The ACTUAL project.” Adaptation and Resilience in Context of Change (ARCC) Assembly 10th – 11th June 2014, Birmingham.

Poster. “Evaluation of the source area of rooftop scalar measurements in London, UK using wind tunnel and modelling approaches.” European Geosciences Union General Assembly 27th April – 2nd May 2014, Vienna.

Presentation. “Monitoring CO₂ and CH₄ concentrations along an urban–rural transect in London, UK.” European Geosciences Union General Assembly 7th – 12th April 2013, Vienna.

Poster. “Subsurface concentrations and surface emissions of greenhouse gases from a seasonally waterlogged peatland in the UK.” European Geosciences Union General Assembly 7th – 12th April 2013, Vienna.

Profiles and Memberships

My Edanz Group profile:

<http://www.edanzediting.com/environmental-science-and-management/alex-boon>

Member of:

Society for Editors and Proofreaders, UK (Entry-level member)

European Association of Science Editors

British Society of Soil Science (Full member)