

James H Blythe

Qualifications	BSc Biological Sciences 2.1 (Hons) University of Birmingham 2011
Memberships	Royal Society of Biology Institute of Food Science & Technology
Year of Birth	1989
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Current Position at CWA

James Blythe joined the Food & Agricultural Commodities Department as a Food Scientist in 2012.

He is involved in the investigation of damage causation, quantum and mitigation of claims made on durable foods, feeds and fresh produce cargoes. He has incident attendance experience in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, North, Central and South America.

James has a solid background in biological sciences; including biochemistry, microbiology, and ecology all of which he regularly uses in claims involving various dry agricultural commodities, feedstuffs and fresh produce.

Specific Expertise and Experience

James has experience of a wide range of bulk and bagged cargoes covering cereals, oilseeds and feed cargoes. This includes the associated problems with their carriage such as water damage/wetting, caking, self-heating, insect infestation, moulds, mycotoxins, and other associated quality issues.

James has specific knowledge of the requirements of internationally recognised sampling regimes such as GAFTA Sampling Rules No. 124, FOSFA sampling and ISO 24333. He has been involved in the arrangement and supervision of sampling exercises and the subsequent laboratory analysis of samples.

He has also investigated insect infestations of bulk, bagged and containerised cargoes. Cases have involved on-site attendance to identify possibly sources of common grain insect and cockroach infestations, negotiate with port/ quarantine authorities and advise on suitable infestation treatments including insect trapping, insecticide spraying and fumigation (involving aluminium phosphide (phosphine), methyl bromide and sulphuryl fluoride).

He has also been involved in investigating historical commodity prices to determine whether claim values are accurately calculated and involved in mitigating loss of damaged cargoes by liaising with potential salvage buyers.

Specific cases have involved:

Cereals:	Bulk and bagged rice, barley, maize (yellow/ white), wheat, wheat flour, sorghum
Oilseeds:	Soya beans, cashew nuts
Seed Cakes:	Soya bean meal (SBM), citrus pulp pellets (CPP)
Feeds:	Corn gluten feed pellets (CGFP), dried distillers grains with solubles (DDGS), corn soya blend (CSB), wheat bran pellets
Softs:	Raw sugar, bagged refined white sugar
Fresh Produce:	Bananas, Citrus, Grapes
Frozen:	Mackerel, Buffalo, Chicken, Seafood, prepared foods

Selected International Attendances

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|-------------------|---|
| Bangladesh | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shipboard inspections of soya bean, wheat and maize cargoes. Organisation of joint survey and supervision of sampling to assess cargo quality and infestation issues. |
| Belgium | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surveyed banana cargoes due to premature/ mixed ripening and oil contamination. Participation in Belgian Court proceedings.• Laboratory attendances to witness sample condition and discuss analysis procedure. |
| Benin | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inspected cargo of allegedly damaged frozen fish during discharge and in cold stores. Participated in further discussions regarding the rejection of the consignment.• Shipboard inspection of a delayed and infested cargo of bulk rice. |
| Brazil | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surveyed cargo of allegedly rain wetted malted barley during discharge.• Inspection of soya bean meal cargo. Coordinated sampling and analysis. |
| China | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigation into the source of insect infestation of container units and container vessel. On site advice and assistance for isolation of suspect units and fumigation treatments.• Shipboard inspections of various soya bean cargoes in relation to alleged heat and mould damage. |

- Cote D'Ivoire** • Shipboard inspections of bagged rice cargo during discharge.
- Ecuador** • Shipboard survey of banana cargo during loading. Assessed cargo condition and potential for premature ripening.
- Egypt** • Shipboard and warehouse inspection of a cargo of soya bean meal.
- Shipboard inspection and participation in joint survey/sampling of rejected soya bean cargo.
- Shipboard inspection and sampling of barley cargo.
- Ghana** • Inspection of a cargo of delayed frozen fish.
- Guinea** • Warehouse inspection and organisation of joint sampling of wetted bagged sugar cargo.
- Guinea-Bissau** • Shipboard inspection of bagged raw cashew nuts with alleged moisture damage.
- India** • Warehouse inspection and participation in joint survey of wetted raw sugar cargo.
- Indonesia** • Surveyed discharged cargoes of maize alleged to be damaged and contaminated with large quantities of foreign material.
- Inspection of delayed wheat cargo. Coordinated sampling and analysis.
- Japan** • Investigation into the source of insect infestation of container units and container vessel.
- Jordan** • Inspection and sampling of rejected maize cargo.
- Kenya** • Shipboard inspection of bulk sorghum during discharge.
- Malta** • Inspected cargo of rejected barley sold in a salvage sale.
- Malaysia** • Survey of cargo of maize after delayed voyage. Advised on fumigation requirements and coordinated representative sampling with local superintendents.
- Inspected bagged wheat flour carried in containers.
- Namibia** • Shipboard inspection of white maize cargo, organisation of joint sampling of allegedly damaged cargo.
- Nicaragua** • Investigated source of insect infestation in cargoes of corn soya blend and assisted negotiations for subsequent re-processing and re-export.
- Nigeria** • Warehouse inspections of allegedly caked and discoloured rice.
- Poland** • Surveyed part of a cargo of bananas in a warehouse that were allegedly prematurely ripening.
- Portugal** • Inspected various citrus during discharge and in cold stores following vessel delays.
- Russia** • Shipboard survey of banana cargo which had been subject to cooling problems during voyage.
- Sierra Leone** • Inspection and sampling of a cargo of wheat bran pellets on board delayed vessel.

- Singapore**
 - Shipboard surveys of soya bean cargoes bound for China. Cargo condition, temperature assessment, sampling and analysis coordination.
 - Part of CWA team investigating and monitoring following fire on board container ship. Participated in joint inspections on board vessel and of containers in container yard.
 - Shipboard inspection and sampling of oil contaminated rice. Coordinated analysis to assess potential mitigation and salvage options.
- Slovenia**
 - Surveyed part of a banana cargo with premature ripening and evidence of minor chilling damage.
- Spain**
 - Attended discharge of alleged mould and heat damaged soya beans. Monitored the discharge and assessed cargo condition to mitigate cargo damages.
 - Shipboard inspection and sampling of wheat cargo.
- South Korea**
 - Investigation into the source of insect infestation of container units and container vessel. On site advice and assistance for isolation of suspect units and fumigation treatments.
- Thailand**
 - Shipboard inspections of bagged rice cargoes during loading.
- Turkey**
 - Warehouse survey of a cargo of allegedly discoloured CGFP
 - Attended discharge of allegedly heat damaged DDGS and co-ordinated representative sampling of the remaining cargo.
- UAE**
 - Inspection of bagged wheat flour cargo. Advised on infestation, fumigation and mitigation steps.
 - Shipboard inspection of cargoes of Brazilian soya bean meal and maize that had been on board a vessel for approximately 5 months.
 - Inspections of reefer containers and various cargoes (meat, seafood, fruit/vegetables, prepared foods) following loss of power.
- UK**
 - Surveyed part of a West African banana cargo that was allegedly prematurely ripening.
 - Surveyed a cargo of fire damaged maize, involved in the segregation and subsequent sampling of the cargo. Provided advice on mitigation of cargo damage as a result of fire. Liaised with the relevant local authorities to determine their requirements for the vessel to berth and discharge the cargo.
 - Inspected and sampled a wetted cargo of raw sugar.
 - Inspection of palletised banana cargo during discharge.
- USA**
 - Inspection and sampling of wheat cargo damaged by water ingress following fumigation explosion. Participation in joint surveys and sampling.