Curriculum Vitae - Sarah Bridle

Last updated August 2026

www.sarahbridle.net · @sarahbridle · orcid.org/0000-0002-0128-1006

Director and Co-Founder of the Root and Reason non-profit CIC, working to create a resilient food system. Professor of Food, Climate and Society at the University of York researching greenhouse gas emissions from food and the resilience of the UK food system to disruption. This builds on quantitative modelling and large project leadership across two decades of cosmology research, including as Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Manchester and holder of European Research Council Starting and Consolidator Grants. Regular policy advice and held a fellowship in Defra's Chief Scientific Adviser's Office, gives media interviews and is author of a popular science book.

Employment, education and qualifications

Sep 2021-present: Professor, Chair in Food, Climate and Society, University of York, UK
Jul 2022-present: Co-Lead of AFN Network+ (UKRI Agri-food for Net Zero Network+)
2021-present: FixOurFood WP3 Metrics lead
2021-present: Director, Wilmslow Community Market Garden
Nov 2021-Apr 2022: Food and Land Use System Fellow, Defra CSAO
Jan 2013-Sep 2021: Professor of Astrophysics, University of Manchester, UK
Oct 2008-Dec 2012: Reader, University College London, UK
Oct 2003-Jan 2012: Royal Society University Research Fellowship
Jun 2008-Dec 2008: Sabbatical at SAp CEA Saclay and IAS Orsay, Paris, France
Sep 2004-Sep 2008: Lecturer, University College London, UK
Oct 2003-Aug 2004: College Lecturer, Selwyn College, University of Cambridge, UK
Oct 2001-Sep 2003: Selwyn College Trevelyan Research Fellowship, University of Cambridge
Oct 2000-Oct 2001: TMR Postdoctoral Fellowship of EEC Lensing Network, Toulouse, France
1997-2000: PhD, Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge (supervisor: Hobson)
1993-1997: University of Cambridge, Natural Sciences B.A. Hons. and M.Sci. (1st class)

Grants

CoI £1.36M 2025-2028 BBSRC *"Backcasting to Achieve Food Resilience in the UK (BAFR-UK)"* (PI: A Jones; CoIs: Smith, Youngman, Macmillan, Green, Lyon, Sanderson Bellamy)
CoI £1.6M 2025-2028 UKRI *"Joined up policy and practice for joined up landscapes: resilient Nature Based Solutions for climate adaptation (JPP4JL)"* (PI: C Reynolds)
CoPI £5M 2022-2026 UKRI AgriFood Network+ *"AgriFood4NetZero: Plausible Pathways, Practical and Open Science for Net Zero Agrifood"* (CoPIs: Sanderson Bellamy (Je-S PI), Ward, Benton)
CoI £6M 2021-2026 UKRI Transforming UK Food Systems SPF *"Transformations to Regenerative Food Systems (TReFS)"* (PI: B Doherty). Lead of Metrics Work Package
PI £45k 2022-2024 APEX Award, Royal Society, British Academy and Royal Academy of Engineering *"How to feed the UK amid catastrophic food system disruption?"* (CoI: Jones)
PI £272k 2019-2021 STFC GCRF *"Trends in greenhouse gas emissions from Brazilian foods*

using GGDOT" (CoIs: Reynolds, Tereza da Silva, Garzillo, Levy)
PI €2M 2016-2021 ERC Consolidator Grant (0 CoIs)
PI £613k 2017-2020 STFC Food Network+ (CoIs: Koh, Grieve, Denby, Reed, Flanaghan, Halford)
CoI £4M 2017-2020 JBCA Consolidated Grant, STFC (PI: R Battye; 29 CoIs)
PI £345,290 2015-2019 STFC *"UK Involvement in LSST: Phase A"* (LSST:UK consortium; PI of the Manchester component)
CoI £4.988M 2014-2017 STFC Consolidated Grant (PI: A Zijlstra; 23 CoIs). 20% FEC + 1 PDRA
PI €1.4M 2010-2016 ERC Starting Grant *"Capitalising on Gravitational Shear"* (0 CoIs)
PI £269,440 2008-2011 Royal Society URF 3 year extension *"Constraining and testing cosmological models"* (0 CoIs)
PI £200,333 2003-2008 Royal Society URF *"Constraining and testing cosmological models"* (0 CoIs)

Policy influence and government advisory work

Feb 2026: Expert interview for National Audit Office review of Defra's approach to UK food security
Jan 2026: Invited opening talk for UK Government Food Standards Agency Board's strategic away day
Oct 2025: Presentation at AFN Network+ Roadmap launch at Westminster
Jun 2025: Invited talk for Defra's CB7 Series Teach-in on the Future Food Calculator
May 2025: TUKFS/Defra Future Food Webinar, invited speaker
Apr 2025: Meeting to discuss the UK's agri-food system with the Chief Scientific Adviser
Mar 2025: Defra Futures co-creation workshop: England's 25-year Farming Roadmap
Nov 2024: Defra Agrifood Directorate awayday, invited speaker
Oct 2024: Co-design workshop for menu swaps project with Bradford Council
Sep 2024: Defra UK Food Security Review expert elicitation, selected expert
Jul 2024: Chatham House Food Security workshop, invited expert
Jun 2024: Bradford Council Menu Swap project, expert adviser
Jun 2024: Met Office workshop, invited expert participant and group chair
Apr 2024: 7th Carbon Budget Working Group, AFN Network+, instigator and participant
Apr 2024: Defra meeting on modelling net zero, expert discussant
Apr 2024: Bradford Council, food strategy in local authority schools, expert adviser
Jan 2024: WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme), expert discussant
Oct 2023: Defra Strategy Unit awayday, guest speaker
Nov 2021-Apr 2022: Food and Land Use System Fellow, Defra Chief Scientific Adviser's Office
2022: Submission to MP Chris Skidmore's Net Zero Review: The Net Zero Target and the UK Agri-Food System. October 2022
2022: Submission to the House of Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee Inquiry into UK Food Security. September 2022
Policy thinkpiece on net zero, Policy@Manchester
Collaborated with the Earl of Caithness and Julian Huppert on a proposed amendment (253A)

to the Agriculture Bill on mandatory food climate emissions labelling (not passed)

Selected talks, outreach and public engagement

May 2026: Invited opening keynote at Lincolnshire Food Summit
May 2026: Invited opening keynote for launch of "Civil Food Resilience in practice" by Sustain
Apr 2026: Interviewed for The Times
Apr 2026: The Guardian, quoted in article on individual food crisis preparedness
Nov 2025: Chair of panel discussion for British Academy public engagement evening
Jul 2025: Invited talk for Eating Better
May 2025: Institute for Policy Research, University of Bath, invited speaker: Securing Our Food Supply: Building Resilience in the UK
Feb 2025: IoP Food Physics Conference, keynote speaker
Nov 2024: BBC Radio 4 Inside Science, development interview
Sep 2024: BBC Radio 5 Live with Nicky Campbell, invited guest expert
Jul 2024: Feed the Planet podcast series, podcast host (6 episodes)
May 2024: BBC Radio 4 podcast AntiSocial, interview
Oct 2023: Manchester Literature Festival, in conversation with George Monbiot
Jun 2023: Cheltenham Science Festival, in conversation with George Monbiot
Jan 2023: LEAP 2022, Oxford, keynote speaker
Sep 2022: BBC Future article
Jan 2022: Frank Parkinson Lecture at the Oxford Farming Conference
Jan 2022: Darwin Lecture, Darwin College Cambridge
Jun 2021: Cheltenham Science Festival live panel discussion, The Future of Food, with Timandra Harkness
May 2021: The Hay Festival, "Cassandra Coburn and Sarah Bridle talk to Martin Wright"
Apr 2021: The Times: book serialised across 3 pages of the Saturday Magazine of The Times, with graphics and an interview on 3 more pages
Mar 2021: The Life Scientific (BBC Radio 4)
Feb 2021: Authored Channel 4 News piece on the impact of food on climate change
Jan 2021: Article for the BBC's Follow the Food
Sep 2020: Author of lay book *Food and Climate Change Without the Hot Air*, UIT Cambridge
Feb 2020: TEDxManchester talk on food and climate change
Jul 2019: PI of Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition stand, Take a Bite out of Climate Change

Publications

Author of over 145 refereed publications, with an h-index of 69 and over 23,000 citations. The 118 that are not Dark Energy Survey Builder papers have over 17,000 citations.
Author of the lay book *Food and Climate Change Without the Hot Air* (UIT Cambridge, 2020).
Full publications list: orcid.org/0000-0002-0128-1006