

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: 2002-2007

- Teaching assistant for five campus courses
- Research assistantship

New Mexico State University (NMSU): 2008-present

- Assistant Professor of Vegetable Physiology, chiles and onions
- 25% teaching (HORT 100), 75% research

TEACHING EXPERIENCE/AWARDS

-Experience-

HORT 106, Horticulture for the Home, TA: Incomplete List of Teaching Assistants Ranked as Excellent by their Students for the past 3 semesters, Fall 2002- Fall 2004- approximately 150 students/semester.

University YMCA Community Courses: Spring and Summer Wildflower Identification, 2003-2004- approximately 15 students/class.

ACES 100, College of ACES Introductory Freshman Course, TA: Fall 2005- Three sections of 21 students. Responsible for weekly class activities. TA taught.

HORT 100, Introduction to Horticulture, TA: Fall 2005-present- Approximately 150 students/semester. Develop web-based teaching materials for introductory horticulture class.

PLPA 200, Plants, Pathogens and People, TA: Spring 2006-present- Approximately 75 students/semester. Develop writing topics and critique student assignments.

CPSC 590, Ethics in the Natural Sciences, materials coordinator: Summer and Fall 2006- preparation and creation of interactive discussion activities and end of the semester focus groups to evaluate their impact.

-Other Experience-

Research Apprentice Program (RAP II): Summer 2004-2007, trained and directed five program participants with six week research programs.

International Students: Training of international graduate students in the laboratory as well as visiting scientists (and undergraduate volunteers and employees).

Undergraduate Honors Project Supervision: Supervised the design and execution of two tissue culture-related campus honors student projects. Oversee special projects and summer science project with McNair scholars.

-Recognition-

College of ACES Louis V. Logeman Graduate Student Teaching Award recipient: 2006
North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Graduate Student Teaching Award: 2006

Office of the Provost Campus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, TA: 2007

Incomplete List of Teaching Assistants Ranked as Excellent by their Students: Semesters including Fall 2002, Spring 2003, Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Fall 2004, Fall 2005, Spring 2006, and Fall 2006.

-Courses/Committees-

Graduate Education Policy Committee, College of ACES (Fall 2006-Spring 2007): One of two nominated and elected representative graduate students in the College. The GEPC advises the Associate Dean for Academic Programs on existing and proposed policy matters.

Teaching College Graduate, College of ACES (Fall 2006): Ten week course designed to improve and challenge the participant's teaching habits, skills, and abilities.

Writing Across the Curriculum, Campus (Spring 2006): Campus teaching course designed to teach instructors how to incorporate writing into their coursework for improved learning.

University Governance Course (AGED 520), College of ACES (Spring 2007): Teaching course designed to address important issues of governance in higher level education.

AWARDS/MEMBERSHIPS

-Awards-

Outstanding Undergraduate in Vegetable Crops: 2000

University of Illinois Student Employee of the Year Award: 2001

American Society for Horticultural Science, Horticultural Science Scholars Award: 2002

Michigan Vegetable Council, Vegetable Industry Scholarship: 2002

Eugene S. Boerner Scholarship in Floriculture: 2002-2003 and 2006-2007 academic years, special award for summer 2007

Downer's Grove Garden Club Scholarship recipient: 2003, 2005

-Memberships-

Alpha Zeta Honorary Agriculture Fraternity, member and treasurer: 2001-2002

Pi Alpha Xi Honorary Horticulture Society, member and treasurer: 2001-2002

NACTA Graduate Student member: Spring 2006- present

AAAS student member: Spring 2007-present

GRANTS/PROJECTS FUNDED

Jonathan Baldwin Turner (JBT) Undergraduate Research Award (\$1,000): 2001-2002

Colgate-Palmolive Undergraduate Research Award (\$1,000): 2001-2002

C-FAR (Council on Food and Agricultural Research) funding recipient for four year research program (\$75,000): 2002-2006

PUBLICATIONS (Chronological)

Shehata, A., R.M.S. Mulwa, M. Babadoost, M. Uchanski, M. Norton, A. Walters, and R. Skirvin. 2008. Horseradish: Botany, Horticulture, Breeding. Horticultural Reviews. In press.

Díaz-Barrita, A.J., Norton, M., Martínez-Peniche, R.A., Uchanski, M., Mulwa, R., and R.M. Skirvin. 2007. The use of *in vitro* meristem culture to produce virus-free grapevines cv. 'Chancellor'. International Journal of Fruit Science 7 (3).

Uchanski, M.E. 2008. The Logistics and Economics of Producing Pathogen-Free (PF), Tissue Culture-Derived Horseradish Sets for Illinois Growers. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan., 2008. Univ. Ill. Extension.

- Skirvin, R.M., M.A. Norton, M. Uchanski, W. Wannarat, A. Shehata, M. Bonar, and K. Wood. 2008. Progress in Horseradish Tissue Culture. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan., 2008. Univ. Ill. Extension.
- Uchanski, M.E., M.A. Norton and R.M. Skirvin. 2007. The Logistics and Economics of Producing Pathogen-Free (PF), Tissue Culture Derived Horseradish Sets. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan., 2007. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 14-19.
- Uchanski, M.E., M.A. Norton and R.M. Skirvin. 2006. In Vitro Disease Elimination: Findings and Future Research. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan., 2006. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp.45-48.
- Uchanski, M.E., M.A. Norton and R.M. Skirvin. 2005. Increasing Yields and Quality of the Illinois Horseradish Crop Using In Vitro Disease Elimination: Preliminary Field Data, Summer 2004. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan., 2005. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 28-32.
- Shehata, A., R. Skirvin, M. Norton and M. Uchanski. 2005. Horseradish History. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan., 2005. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 21-27.
- Shehata, A., R. Skirvin, M. Norton, J. Masiunas, M. Babadoost, A. Hamblin, D. Warnock, M. Kushad, M. Uchanski and R. Mulwa. 2005. Developing a System to Produce Uniform Micropropagated Horseradish Plants In Vitro. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan., 2005. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 19-20.
- Skirvin, R.M., M. Norton and M.E. Uchanski. 2005. Horseradish Tissue Culture and Related Projects. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan., 2005. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 49-51.
- Uchanski, M.E., M.A. Norton and R.M. Skirvin. 2005. Increasing Yields and Quality of the Illinois Horseradish Crop Using In Vitro Disease Elimination. Abstract in the proceedings from the Second Joint Conference of the International Working Group on Legume and Vegetable Viruses (WGLVV), Ft. Lauderdale, FL. April 10-14, 2005.
http://www.ifa.to.cnr.it/vvwg/documents/Abstracts_Rev.pdf
- Uchanski, M.E., R.M. Skirvin and M.A. Norton. 2004. The Use of In Vitro Thermotherapy to Obtain Turnip mosaic virus-Free Horseradish Plants. Acta Hort., ISHS. 631:175-179.
- Uchanski, M.E., M.A. Norton and R.M. Skirvin. 2004. Preliminary Yield Data from the Summer 2003 Study of the Effects of Disease-Free Planting Material on the Illinois Horseradish Crop. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan. 29, 2004. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 4-7.
- Ozgur, M., A.M. Shehata, R.M. Skirvin, M.A. Norton, R.M.S. Mulwa, M. Uchanski, A.M. Hamblin, and M. Babadoost. 2004. An in vitro method to rescue embryos of horseradish (*A Armoracia rusticana*), a reputedly sterile plant. Journal of Vegetable Crop Production, Vol. 10 (2).
- Norton, M.A., Lee, L.K., Uchanski, M.E., Aly, B., and R. Skirvin. 2003. Progress in Horseradish Tissue Culture. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan. 29-30, 2003. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 13-14.
- Uchanski, M.E., M.A. Norton and R.M. Skirvin. 2003. A Proposed Study of the Effects of Disease-Free Planting Material on the Illinois Horseradish Crop. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan. 29-30, 2003. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 9-12.
- Uchanski, M.E., Moutinho-Pereira, J.M. and Magalhães, N. 2001. Physiological effects of canopy distance to the ground of *Vitis vinifera* L., cv. "Malvasia Fina" in the demarcated Douro region of Portugal. Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro/ICETA research.
- Uchanski, M.E., R.M. Skirvin and M.A. Norton. 2002. The Use of In Vitro Thermotherapy to Obtain Turnip Mosaic Virus-Free Horseradish Plants. Transactions of the Illinois State Horticultural Society: 6th Annual Illinois Fruit and Vegetable Research Report. Pp. 136-141.

- Norton, M., M. Uchanski, K. Scoggins, and R. Skirvin. 2001. Tissue culture project progress. Horseradish Res. Rev. Proc. Horseradish Growers School, Jan. 25, 2001. Univ. Ill. Extension. Pp. 18-20.
- Skirvin, R.M., M.A. Norton, M. Uchanski, C. Voigt, A. Hamblin, T. Bratsch, J. Kindhart, and B. Aly. 2001. Eliminating virus in horseradish clones. Will it restore yields? Horseradish Research & Proc. From the Horseradish Growers School, Jan. 25, 2001. Pp 21-26.
- Skirvin, R.M., M.A. Norton, A. Hamblin, K. Scoggins, and M. Uchanski. 2000. Horseradish tissue culture. Horseradish Research Review & Proceedings from the Horseradish Growers School, Jan. 27, 2000. Pp 26-27.

PRESENTATIONS

-Professional Conferences-

Illinois Horseradish Grower's School: January of each year I give a research report for our laboratory and my individual research- 2000-2007.

Illinois Horseradish Grower's Twilight meeting: Research report in June of each year- 2000-2006.

International Horticultural Congress- Toronto, Canada August 11-17th 2002

- Oral presentation: The Use of In-Vitro Thermotherapy to Obtain *Turnip mosaic virus*-free Horseradish Sets.

Second Joint Conference of the International Working Group on Legume and Vegetable Viruses (WGLVV)- Ft. Lauderdale, FL April 10-14, 2005.

- Presented "Increasing Yields and Quality of the Illinois Horseradish Crop Using In Vitro Disease Elimination"

-Attendance/Facilitator-

North American Collegiate Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference- Vancouver, B.C. July 7-9, 2006. Attendance and received the Graduate Student Teaching Award.

American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS) Conference- New Orleans, LA August 27-30, 2006.

NACTA Conference- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: June 20-22, 2007. Attendance and poster session coordinator/facilitator.

-Other-

Guest lecturer: HORT 106, presentations on bonsai, plant tissue culture, and orchid care/culture- every semester

Potpourri of Gardening: Master Gardeners of Decatur, IL: Orchid care- April, 2005

School for Designing Society, Urbana, IL: Fermented foods workshop, growing and processing your own horseradish- March 2005 and 2006

Greenview Landscape: Orchid care and reblooming- February, 2005

UIUC Horticulture Club: Annual hands-on bonsai workshop and Mid-American Collegiate Horticultural Society (MACHS) March, 2006- "Workshops: The Hands-On Way to a Better Meeting and Club."

EXTRACURRICULAR/COMMUNITY SERVICE

President of UIUC Horticulture Club: 2001-2002, member 1998-2003

Co-President and Current Graduate Advisor of Red Bison Prairie Restoration Group: 2000-2002

- Manage a one-mile long stretch of railroad prairie in Savoy, IL and woodland in Vermilion County, IL.
- Conduct controlled burns, seed collecting, removal of exotic species, reintroduction of native species, and education.

President, Founding Member, and Graduate Advisor for Illini Orchid Club: 2002-2007

University YMCA Student Board Treasurer, Building Committee Chair: 2002-2005

- Designed and installed native re-landscaping as part of a continuing project.
- Current building committee member

Urbana Park District Natural Areas Committee (NAC) Member: 2002-2007

- Volunteer co-steward for 60 acre Big Grove remnant, Busey Woods
- Crystal Lake Park and Busey Woods master planning committee member

SERVICE TO EXTERNAL GROUPS/EXTENSION

HGI The Horseradish Grower's of Illinois have asked us to work with them to develop pathogen-free horseradish using tissue culture. They have provided funds to support undergraduate student workers, part of our lab manager's salary, and the purchase of a growth chamber to maintain the horseradish germplasm collection. We report our findings to this group in a formal way one to two times a year. Informal communication and coordination with HGI officers and growers occurs continually.