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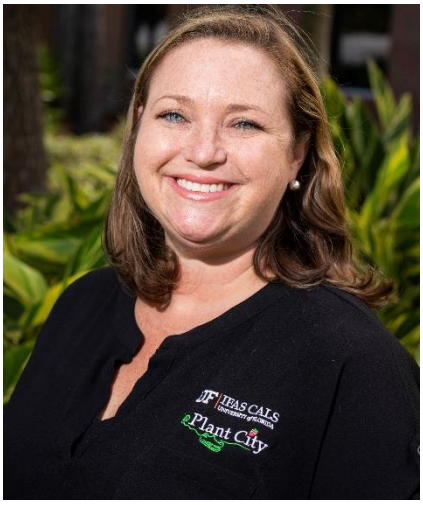
[http://www.ufl.edu/health-updates/](#)
[https://ifas.ufl.edu/covid19-information-updates/](#)*As of today, October 23, 2020 GCREC remains closed to the public. Our research continues with a limited number of essential staff, and we are so grateful for their continued dedication. For information contact Christine Cooley ccooley@ufl.edu. Administrative staff is on site every day as of October 12th, so please call if you need assistance 813-419-6670.*



20-Questions Faculty Profile – Meet Dr. Debra Barry, Assistant Professor

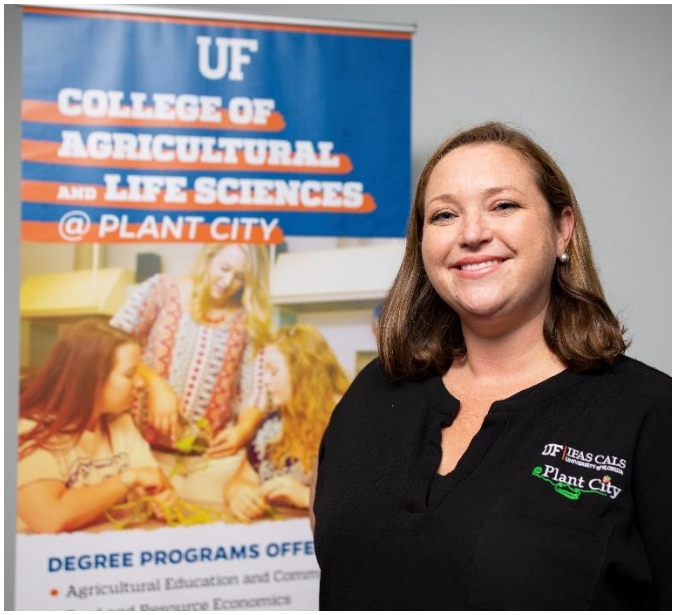
This is a new feature for our ENewsletter to provide readers some insight both academically and personally on our amazing faculty. Dr. Barry is a newly appointed Assistant Professor at our Plant City Campus, Agricultural Education and Communication. Dr. Barry's research and extension program educators. She is not new the GCREC family, but was recently promoted to Assistant Professor this past summer. So let's get started – here are her answers to our 20-Questions request.

Where were you born and what led you to Florida? Royal Oak, Michigan. My parents moved here to escape the cold winters and enjoy the Florida sunshine when I was a baby.

When did you first feel inspired to work in a science field? I was inspired at a VERY young age—I would say about 3 years old. I was fascinated with animals and had quite a few!

What was your first paying job? My first paying job was mowing lawns for my neighbors.

What's your perfect pizza? My perfect pizza would have a nice chewy, buttery crust and be topped with extra cheese and some pepperoni.



When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? I first wanted to be a lawyer, then a veterinarian. I entered UF as a freshman majoring in AEC, focused on communication and minoring in law-planning to become an agricultural lawyer. After a careers in ag course interview, I quickly learned this was not the path for me. I recognized my passion and changed my AEC specialization to ag ed!

When you're not working on your research, what do you enjoy doing? I love spending time with my family—whether that is the beach, pool, or riding bikes. I also enjoy gardening.

What's your go-to breakfast food? Bacon! But, I usually have a protein shake during the week and indulge on the weekends.

Mountains or beach? BEACH!

What are you most proud of? I am most proud of my daughter Abby. She is kind, creative, and smart as a whip!

A hobby we might not know about? I like to paint! I hadn't done it in years, but just picked it back up.

If you could back five years in your life, what advice would you give yourself? Don't hesitate to take advantage of opportunities!

What is your main research focus right now? My main focus is on recruitment and retention of agricultural educators. I focus on developing support for cooperating teachers that host student teachers in their capstone student teaching internship, as well as a program that helps to attract potential ag educators into the profession and into the AEC program at UF.

What is the best part about working at GCREC? I enjoy working with my colleagues and the family atmosphere we have.

What do you believe is the greatest challenge facing Florida agriculture today? I think the greatest challenge is educating consumers about the industry.

How do you deal with negative emotions or stress? I try and step away, and find time to de-stress.

PC or Mac? PC.

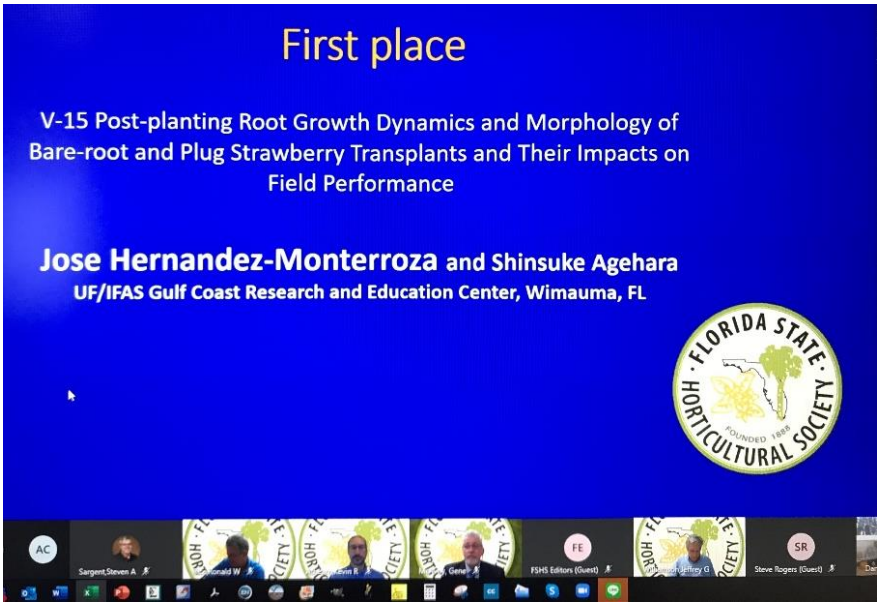
What would you name the autobiography of your life? It's not the destination, it's the journey.

What is the most significant development you see coming out of your research area in the coming years? I hope to contribute insightful information for cooperating teacher programming that can be useful at other institutions and programs.

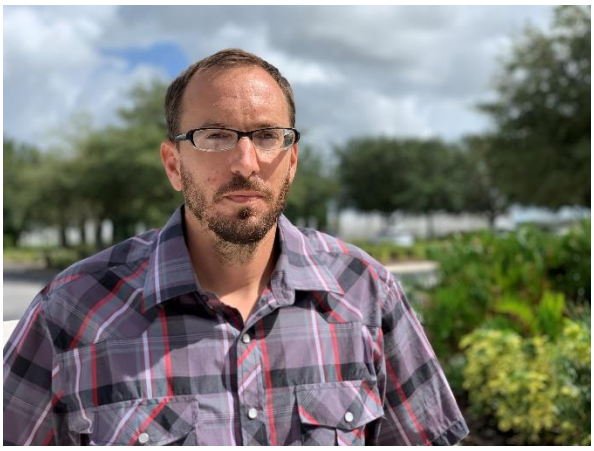
If you could give just one piece of advice to GCREC students, what would it be? Be sure to get involved in organizations and research projects—all very helpful and strong experiences that contribute to overall learning and networking.

What is something you learned in the last week? That's a tough one, I feel like I learn something new every day. I would say—my peers have been wildly successful at journal article submissions, and I could learn much from them about this process.

Congratulations to Jose Hernandez, Horticultural Sciences Grad Student with Agehara Lab



First Place in the Student Oral Presentation Competition at the Florida State Horticultural Society Annual Conference. His presentation title was "Post-planting Root Growth Dynamics and Morphology of Bare-root and Plug Strawberry Transplants and Their Impacts on Field Performance".



Lahiri Lab Welcomes new PostDoc Associate

Dr. Jonathan O'Hearn has joined Dr. Sriyanka Lahiri's lab recently as a Postdoctoral Research Associate. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. Entomology degrees at Washington State University, Pullman. Jonathan received his Ph.D. in May 2020 and his dissertation title was: The Efficiency of the Grape Mealybug, *Pseudococcus maritimus*, to Vector Grapevine Leafroll-associated Virus 3. ***Welcome!***

Dr. Nan-Yi Wang – Promoted to Research Assistant Scientist

Dr. Nan-Yi Wang has been promoted from his postdoc position to Research Assistant Scientist. Dr. Wang is currently a member of Dr. Natalia Peres' Plant Pathology Lab. He completed his Ph.D. in Plant Pathology in 2016 and had been working at the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center before coming to GCREC. His current research includes, but is not limited to:

Elucidating the genetic relatedness of Colletotrichum species causing strawberry fruit rot epidemics in Florida by sequencing, phylogenetic analysis, and pathogenicity tests.

Development and incorporation of high-throughput molecular detection methods (high resolution melting analysis, HRM) into the diagnostic process for strawberry crown rot diseases in Florida to provide accurate and timely information for effective disease management.

Assessing the performance and reliability of isothermal amplification techniques for detection of strawberry diseases, including loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) and recombinase polymerase amplification (RPA); done in collaboration with researchers in Iowa and California.

Congratulations on your promotion Dr. Wang!

GCREC in the News

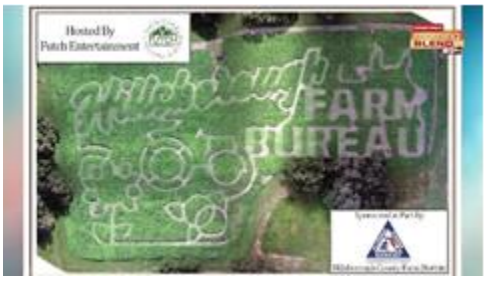
Florida Hops Show Potential - https://vscnews.com/florida-hops-show-potential/

GCREC hops research continues with a successful 2020 Fall crop. Did you know that in Florida we can have two seasons for hops unlike in the Pacific Northwest where they can only have one season? It's true. Double the hops, double the potential for increased profits for breweries that follow the farm to

table concept. Be sure to check out our YouTube Channel to check out some amazing video footage of our hops yard.

GCREC Strawberry 2020 Season

https://www.greenhousegrower.com/crops/why-these-new-strawberries-are-ideal-for-greenhouse-production/



UF/IFAS Geomatics Team Creates another Ag-Related Corn Maze

9th Annual Fox Squirrel Corn Maze (UF/IFAS connection is mentioned in the video around 2:30)
https://www.abcactionnews.com/morning-blend/9th-annual-fox-squirrel-corn-maze

Yes, we work on citrus at GCREC along with CREC in Lake Alfred

Scientists look to DNA in search for cure to citrus disease
https://www.winknews.com/2020/10/19/scientists-look-to-dna-in-search-for-cure-to-citrus-disease/
Was the Secret to Save Citrus Trees Just Unlocked?
https://www.growingproduce.com/citrus/was-the-secret-to-save-citrus-trees-just-unlocked/
University of Florida scientists make big stride toward greening-resistant citrus trees
https://www.freshplaza.com/article/9259055/university-of-florida-scientists-make-big-stride-toward-greening-resistant-citrus-trees/?edition=1

GCREC Strawberry Varieties Update

New video produced by the Florida Strawberry Growers Association now available on YouTube features Dr. Vance Whitaker's strawberry breeding research and overview of the different varieties developed at GCREC for strawberry lovers all over the U.S. and beyond.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iOSMBkLZp4

GCREC Publications

Ze Peng, Jessen V. Bredeson, Guohong Albert Wu, Shengqiang Shu, Nidhi Rawat, Dongliang Du, Saroj Parajuli, Qibin Yu, Qian You, Daniel S. Rokhsar, Frederick G. Gmitter, Jr., and Zhanao Deng. A Chromosome-scale reference genome of trifoliate orange (Poncirus trifoliata) provides insights into disease resistance, cold tolerance and genome evolution in Citrus. The Plant Journal. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tpj.14993.
https://doi.org/10.1111/tpj.14993

Dowling, M., Peres, N.A., Villani, S., Schnabel, G. Managing *Colletotrichum* on Fruit Crops: A "Complex" Challenge. Plant Disease 104, 2301-2316

Baggio, J.S., Ruschel, R.G., Noling, J., Peres, N.A. Physical, Cultural, and Chemical Alternatives for Integrated Management of Charcoal Rot of Strawberry. Plant Disease https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-04-20-0917-RE

Baggio, J.S., Forcelini, B.B.,Wang, N.Y., Ruschel, R.G., Mertely, J.C., Peres, N.A. Outbreak of leaf spot and fruit rot in Florida strawberry caused by *Neopestalotiopsis* spp. Plant Disease https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-06-20-1290-RE

Marin, M.V., and Peres, N.A. First Report of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* Causing Strawberry Fruit Rot in Florida. Plant Disease https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-04-20-0879-PDN

Alonzo, G., Lopes, U.P., Wang, N.Y., Peres, N.A. First report of sour rot of strawberry caused by *Geotrichum candidum* in the United States. Plant Disease https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-05-20-0936-PDN

Syuan-You Lin and Shinsuke Agehara. Exogenous Gibberellic Acid Advances Reproductive Phenology and Increases Early-Season Yield in Subtropical Blackberry Production, Agronomy

Panthi, B. R., J. M. Renkema, **S. Lahiri**, and O. E. Liburd. (Accepted on Oct 22, 2020). The short-range movement of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) and rate of spread of feeding injury among strawberry plants. Environmental Entomology.