

Open Letter to Students interested in Texas A&M University's Department of Horticultural Sciences Graduate Programs:

Thank you for your interest in the Department of Horticultural Sciences graduate program at Texas A&M University. Application deadlines for consideration of Departmental funding for fall semesters are the preceding Dec. 15. For spring or summer semesters, applications should be completed by Sept. 15 of the preceding year. These deadlines can be somewhat flexible if you can find a faculty member to work with you.

The most critical aspect of your application to the Department of Horticultural Sciences at TAMU is contacting the faculty to find someone to work under. Investigate the faculty to determine which members are conducting research in your area of interest and contact them via email to determine whether they have any available positions. Faculty's contact information can be found at the Department of Horticulture Sciences' website: www.hortsciences.tamu.edu All other admission deadlines follow the Graduate Catalog, <http://www.tamu.edu/admissions/catalogs>.

Successful applicants to the Department's graduate programs typically have an undergraduate GPR of 3.000 or substantially better, GRE scores of approximately 153 (500) in verbal and 144 (500) in quantitative or greater, strong letters of support for admission to the graduate program from faculty mentors, a well written letter of application, and in the case of international students strongly demonstrated competency in English via TOEFL scores or other testing instruments. The graduate school typically requires a minimum official TOEFL (International students only) score of at least an 80 (internet based), a 213 (computer based) or a 550 (paper based).

All assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis. Some teaching assistantships are available from the Department and are assigned by the Associate Head for Graduate Programs on the recommendation of the teaching faculty. **Nearly all research assistantships are funded from grants held by individual faculty members, thus you should inquire about the availability of research assistantships from the individual faculty whose programs interest you. You should only go to the expense of applying if there is a program in your area of interest and which has an opening for a new graduate student.**

Information about the department, degrees offered, biographical information about our faculty and their research programs, and policies governing our graduate program can be found on our Home Page at: <http://hortsciences.tamu.edu>. Feel free to contact any of the faculty by email or phone to determine if they have an opening for a new graduate student.

If you decide to apply, the on-line application form is available here: <http://admissions.tamu.edu/>. The application fee is paid on-line and is completed on the Office of Admissions website. Information about university codes and sending transcripts and GRE scores is also on the Admissions website.

Transcripts, letters of recommendation, and GRE scores should be sent to the Office of Admissions.

- **Transcripts should come directly from the issuing universities (not photocopies). GRE scores should come directly from ETS, not the student.**
- **TOEFL scores should also be sent to Admissions from the administering institution, not the student.**
- **Letters of Recommendation can be sent through admissions (preferable) or sent directly to the department through email at HortGraduateStudies@tamu.edu.**

General information about graduate studies at Texas A&M University is available on the home page of the Office of Graduate Studies at: <http://ogs.tamu.edu>.

Once all the information has been received from Admissions, the packet will be sent to our graduate faculty so that you can be evaluated for graduate studies in our Department. This process of faculty evaluation usually requires about one to three weeks after we receive the completed packet from the Office of Graduate Studies. I will inform you as soon as possible concerning the results.

Usually delays in the process are caused by either delayed receipt of letters of recommendation, transcripts, TOEFL or GRE scores. Graduate Admissions will not release the application to the Department until all required information has been received.

Please contact us if you have additional questions at 979-845-5343 or by email at HortGraduateStudies@tamu.edu.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patricia Klein
Professor & Associate Head for
Graduate Programs
Department of Horticultural
Sciences Texas A&M University

Department of Horticultural Sciences

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77843 | [Map](#) Phone: (979) 845-5269 | Fax: (979) 845-0627 |
hortsciences.tamu.edu**

Table 1. Graduate faculty listed by area of specialization and (degrees that can be obtained under their direction).

Controlled Environment Agriculture

On-Campus

Off-Campus

Genhua Niu (El Paso)

Joe Masabni (Overton)

Floral Design and Event Planning (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Off-Campus

Terri Starman

Food Science & Technology / Bioactive Compounds / Postharvest Physiology (Horticulture, Food Science and Nutrition)

On-Campus

Off-Campus

Luis Cisneros-Zevallos

Bhimu Patil

Genomics (Horticulture, MEPS)

On-Campus

Off-Campus

Patricia Klein

Greenhouse / Floriculture Production and Marketing (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Off-Campus

Charles Hall

Brent Pemberton (Overton)

Terri Starman

Genhua Niu (El Paso)

Mengmeng Gu

Joe Masabni (Overton)

International Horticulture (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Off-Campus

Tim Davis

Daniel Leskovar (Uvalde)

Leonardo Lombardini

Genhua Niu (El Paso)

Mengmeng Gu

Joe Masabni (Overton)

Bhimu Patil

Nursery / Floriculture Economics (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Off-Campus

Charles Hall

Ornamental Horticulture / Landscape Plant Establishment / Landscape Plant Development (Horticulture, MEPS, Plant Breeding)

On-Campus

Off-Campus

Michael Arnold

Brent Pemberton (Overton)

David Byrne

Steve George (Dallas)

Genhua Niu (El Paso)

Table 1. continued

Plant –Associated Microorganisms / Plant Health (Horticulture, MEPS)

On-Campus

Elizabeth Pierson

Off-Campus

Veronica Ancona (Kingsville)
Greta Schuster (Kingsville)
Genhua Niu (El Paso)
Madhurababu Kunta (Weslaco)

Plant Physiology (Horticulture, MEPS)

On-Campus

Patricia Klein
Hisashi Koiwa
Leonardo Lombardini
Terri Starman
Elizabeth Pierson
Bhimu Patil

Off-Campus

John Jifon (Weslaco)
Daniel Leskovar (Uvalde)
Genhua Niu (El Paso)
Kendal Hirschi (Baylor)
Joe Masabni (Overton)

Plant Breeding and Genetics (Horticulture, MEPS, Plant Breeding)

On-Campus

David Byrne
Kevin Crosby
Patricia Klein
Creighton Miller

Off-Campus

L.J. Grauke (USDA, College Station)
Xinwang Wang (USDA, College Station)
Eliezer Louzada (Weslaco)
Carlos Avila (Weslaco)

Sociohorticulture / People:Plant Interactions (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Charles Hall

Off-Campus

Tina Waliczek Cade (Texas State)

Sustainable Horticulture Production / Nursery Production (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Michael Arnold
Mengmeng Gu

Off-Campus

Larry Stein (Uvalde)
Genhua Niu (El Paso)
Joe Masabni (Overton)

Vegetable Production (Horticulture, Plant Breeding)

On-Campus

Kevin Crosby
Creighton Miller

Off-Campus

John Jifon (Weslaco)
Don Henne (Weslaco)
Daniel Leskovar (Uvalde)
Larry Stein (Uvalde)
Shad D. Nelson (Kingsville)
Joe Masabni (Overton)
Genhua Niu (El Paso)
Carlos Avila (Weslaco)

Viticulture / Enology (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Justin Scheiner

Off-Campus

Edward Hellman (Lubbock)

Table 1. continued**DEGREES OFFERED THROUGH THE DEPT. OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES¹**

	<u>M.Ag.</u>	<u>NTO-M.S.</u>	<u>M.S.</u>	<u>Ph.D.</u>	
Horticulture	X		X	X	
Plant Breeding			X	X	
Molecular & Environmental Plant Sciences			X	X	
Distance Plant Breeding		X		X	X
Food Science and Technology	X		X	X	

¹ M.Ag=Master of Agriculture -Non-Thesis, internship and internship professional paper required

NTO-M.S. = Master of Science – Non-thesis option, internship and professional paper required

M.S. = Master of Science - Thesis required

Ph.D. = Doctor of Philosophy - Dissertation required

Degrees obtained under the direction of off-campus faculty, require a co-advisor on campus for the student's benefit while they are on-campus completing coursework.