

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 Teaching Assistantships for fall semesters are the preceding March 15. For spring or summer semesters, applications should be completed by September 15 of the preceding year. These deadlines can be somewhat flexible if you can find a faculty member to work with you who will be funding you on a grant-supported Research Assistantship. Highly competitive students looking to apply for University Fellowships and Scholarships should have their applications in by December 15 for fall semesters of the following year. University Fellowships and Scholarships are awarded early in spring for the coming fall.

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. The faculty's contact information can be found at the Department of Horticulture Sciences' website: hortsciences.tamu.edu All other admission deadlines follow the Graduate Catalog, <https://www.tamu.edu/admissions/catalogs>.

Successful applicants to the Department's graduate programs typically have an undergraduate GPR of 3.000 or substantially better, strong letters of support for admission to the graduate program from faculty mentors, a well-written statement of purpose, high impact experiential learning activities, 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 that 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 online and is completed on the Office of Admissions website. Information about university codes is also on the Admissions website.

General information about graduate studies at Texas A&M University is available on the Graduate and Professional Studies home page at: <https://grad.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 delayed receipt of letters of recommendation, transcripts, or TOEFL 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 you may contact our Graduate Academic Advisor by email at leann.hague@tamu.edu.

Sincerely,

Dr. Oscar Riera-Lizarazu
Associate Professor & Associate Head for Graduate Programs
Department of Horticultural Sciences
Texas A&M University

Department of Horticultural Sciences
202 Horticulture Forest Sciences Bldg | 2133 TAMU | College Station, TX
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 (Horticulture)

<u>On-Campus</u> Shuyang Zhen	<u>Off-Campus</u> Genhua Niu (Dallas) Joe Masabni (Dallas) Daniel Leskovar (Uvalde)
----------------------------------	--

Floral Design and Event Planning (Horticulture)

<u>On-Campus</u> Terri Starman	<u>Off-Campus</u>
-----------------------------------	-------------------

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

<u>On-Campus</u> Luis Cisneros-Zevallos Bhimu Patil	<u>Off-Campus</u> Vijay Joshi (Uvalde)
---	---

Genomics (Horticulture, MEPS)

<u>On-Campus</u> Amit Dhingra Patricia Klein Oscar Riera-Lizarazu	<u>Off-Campus</u> Vijay Joshi (Uvalde)
--	---

Greenhouse / Floriculture Production and Marketing (Horticulture)

<u>On-Campus</u> Charles Hall Terri Starman Mengmeng Gu	<u>Off-Campus</u> Brent Pemberton (Overton) Genhua Niu (Dallas) Joe Masabni (Dallas)
--	---

International Horticulture (Horticulture)

<u>On-Campus</u> Tim Davis Bhimu Patil Mengmeng Gu	<u>Off-Campus</u> Daniel Leskovar (Uvalde) Genhua Niu (Dallas) Joe Masabni (Dallas)
---	--

Nursery / Floriculture Economics (Horticulture)

<u>On-Campus</u> Charles Hall	<u>Off-Campus</u>
----------------------------------	-------------------

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

<u>On-Campus</u> Michael Arnold David Byrne Oscar Riera-Lizarazu	<u>Off-Campus</u> Brent Pemberton (Overton) Steve George (Dallas) Genhua Niu (Dallas)
---	--

Table 1. continued

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

On-Campus

Elizabeth Pierson

Off-Campus

Veronica Ancona (Kingsville Cooperative Program)

Greta Schuster (Kingsville Cooperative Program)

Genhua Niu (Dallas)

Madhurababu Kunta (Kingsville Cooperative Program)

Plant Physiology (Horticulture, MEPS)

On-Campus

Amit Dhingra

Patricia Klein

Hisashi Koiwa

Bhimu Patil

Terri Starman

Elizabeth Pierson

Shuyang Zhen

Off-Campus

John Jifon (Weslaco)

Daniel Leskovar (Uvalde)

Genhua Niu (Dallas)

Vijay Joshi (Uvalde)

Joe Masabni (Dallas)

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

On-Campus

Amit Dhingra

David Byrne

Kevin Crosby

Patricia Klein

Oscar Riera-Lizarazu

Isabel Vales

Off-Campus

Subas Malla (Uvalde)

Carlos Avila (Weslaco)

Vijay Joshi (Uvalde)

Eliezer Louzada (Weslaco, Kingsville Cooperative Prog)

Sociohorticulture / People:Plant Interactions (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Charles Hall

Off-Campus

Sustainable Horticulture Production / Nursery Production (Horticulture)

On-Campus

Michael Arnold

Mengmeng Gu

Off-Campus

Larry Stein (Uvalde)

Genhua Niu (Dallas)

Joe Masabni (Dallas)

Vegetable Production (Horticulture, Plant Breeding)

On-Campus

Kevin Crosby

Isabel Vales

Off-Campus

Carlos Avila (Weslaco)

Larry Stein (Uvalde)

John Jifon (Weslaco)

Vijay Joshi (Uvalde)

Daniel Leskovar (Uvalde)

Subas Malla (Uvalde)

Joe Masabni (Dallas)

Shad D. Nelson (Kingsville Cooperative Program)

Genhua Niu (Dallas)

Table 1. continued

<u>Viticulture / Enology (Horticulture)</u>				
<u>On-Campus</u>	<u>Off-Campus</u>			
Justin Scheiner	Larry Stein (Uvalde)			
Andreea Botezatu				
<u>DEGREES OFFERED THROUGH THE DEPT. OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES¹</u>				
	<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
<p>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</p> <p>Degrees obtained under the direction of off-campus Texas A&M AgriLife faculty, require a co-advisor on campus for the student’s benefit while they are on-campus completing coursework. Degrees obtained under the direction of faculty employed by Texas A&M University, Kingsville are done through the Texas A&M University, College Station/Texas A&M University, Kingsville Cooperative PhD program and students must apply to both Universities and be accepted by both to participate in this program.</p>				