

HLA HAPPENINGS

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HOME HYDROPONICS: GIVING BACK TO COMMUNITY



Dr. Krishna Nemali's lab is collaborating with many home growers in Indianapolis, Lafayette, and Gary to provide hands-on experience with growing leafy greens using hydroponics in their homes. The project aims to increase the availability and consumption of fresh produce in Indiana communities. Participants collaborate for a period of one year with Nemali's lab and respective county extension agents. The project is funded by a grant from USDA.

SYDNEY KLEIMAN'S SUMMER INTERNSHIP WITH PURDUE EXTENSION



Sydney Kleiman (Junior/Horticulture Production and Marketing) is interning for the Purdue Extension Office in Warrick County this summer, learning about Extension opportunities on the county level. The most rewarding part of the experience is seeing her work benefit the youth in Warrick County, teaching them aspects of agriculture that they may not have experienced otherwise. She found it difficult to work in a trial-and-error setting. "It is not always guaranteed that your ideas are going to work out the way that you envision them, but it remains important to learn as you go and take the advice of others." The piece of advice she wants to give to students considering an internship: "Go in with an open mind and be willing to learn."

KRANTHI VARALA PRESENTED AT PLANT BIOLOGY

Kranthi Varala presented and chaired a session at the annual Plant Biology meeting. The 5-day conference was held in Savannah, GA this year and attracts about 1-2000 attendees from across the world. Kranthi presented his work on Discovering novel TF regulators using gene regulatory networks built from extremely large expression datasets.

DR. LORI HOAGLAND AND COLLEAGUES RECEIVE NSF FUNDING

HLA Professor **Lori Hoagland** and her colleagues at Oregon State University received funding from the National Science Foundation for their project titled 'Microbiome-mediated plant genetic resistance for enhanced agricultural sustainability.'

DIVERSE CORN BELT SYMPOSIUM



Linda Prokopy presenting at the DCB symposium.

The **Diverse Corn Belt** team was in Des Moines, IA this week at the Soil and Water Conservation Society Conference. We had a great DCB symposium and got great feedback on an exciting new stakeholder engagement activity.



DCB Post-doc Lauren Asprooth presenting focus group and interview findings.



Stakeholder engagement feedback activity.

EMMANUEL COOPER PARTICIPATED IN CORTEVA'S DELTA SYMPOSIUM



Emmanuel G. Cooper (Dr. Stephen Meyers lab) participated in the Corteva Agriscience 'Developing Emerging Leaders and Talent in Agriculture' (DELTA) symposium August 7-9, 2023 at the company's global headquarters in Indianapolis. The symposium was led and organized by members of the Corteva Research and Development (R&D) team as part of the company's effort to provide equitable growth and development opportunities and drive Corteva's Inclusion, Diversity and Equity vision of nurturing a strong, diverse talent pipeline. Applications were accepted from all STEM universities in the USA and 40 applicants were selected to attend. The event exposed participants to Corteva R&D careers in different groups such as biotechnology, seed product development, crop protection, regulatory and stewardship, and digital farming solutions. Moreover, it was a huge opportunity for students to network with Corteva R&D leadership and scientists. Participants were opportune to share their research through poster presentation and/or lightning talk. Emmanuel was awarded the 'Outstanding Poster' presentation for the symposium.

JEANINE ARANA VISITED BLUE RIVER TECHNOLOGY



Jesaelen Moraes (left), Jeanine Arana (middle) and William Patzoldt (right) at Blue River Technology's main office in Santa Clara, California.

Jeanine Arana from the Meyers' lab was awarded one out of the five 2023 Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) Travel Enrichment Experience (TEE) awards. The TEE allows the selected graduate students to spend a week visiting a weed science host organization anywhere in the United States depending on their interests. The WSSA supports graduate students by granting \$2000 for travel expenses.

Jeanine had the opportunity to visit Blue River Technology research site and attend a John Deere field day at Arkansas with the allocated travel grant from August 1 to August 4. Fortunately for Jeanine, Blue River Technology kindly sponsored her to visit their main office and product development site in California from August 7 to August 10. Lauren Lazaro, William Patzoldt and Jesaelen Moraes, all active members of the WSSA, kindly hosted Jeanine throughout these two weeks. Thanks to them, Jeanine:

- Saw fully autonomous tractors.
- Rode inside a Blue River Technology See&Spray Ultimate sprayer.

- Drove Blue River Technology Agronomy Test Machine (ATM).
- Learned the components of the See&Spray and ATM sprayers and understood their functions.



- Met with all the teams that Blue River Technology has that make possible the development of new technologies.
- "This experience was unimaginable; I learned a lot and met incredible people! I saw a part of agriculture that I can't see daily. I am grateful to be a member of the WSSA, which supports graduate students this way."
- Jeanine Arana

AREQUIPA NEXUS INSTITUTE IN PERU RECEIVES \$4 MILLION FOR PHASE 3 FUNDING

A [news release](#) from Purdue University highlights recent funding for the Arequipa Nexus Institute's Phase 3 project. Dr. **Lori Hoagland** is co-director of the institute, a unique collaboration between Universidad Nacional de San Agustín and Purdue University with a focus on key challenges to create a sustainable future for the people of Arequipa, Peru.

IMPACT² PROJECT FEATURED IN AGUPDATE

The **Impact²** Project, co-led by Dr. **Linda Prokopy**, was featured this week in [AgUpdate](#).

Newsletters

- Facts for Fancy Fruits: <https://fff.hort.purdue.edu/>
- Vegetable Crops Hotline: <https://vegcropshotline.org/>
- Purdue Landscape Report: <https://www.purduelandscape.org/>
- Greenhouse and Indoor Production of Speciality Crops: <https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/newsearch.asp?subCatID=425%20&CatID=10>

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