Jill Coombs GOV. MSG. NO. 690

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bayer (Monsanto), Kaunakakai, HI *2017-present*

Production Lead, Enablement

- Lead the site's enablement team. Focus on sustainability, safety, maintenance, and administration.
- Develop 15 direct reports
- Employee hiring and retention
- Drive continuous improvement projects and metrics

Dow Agrosciences, Hoolehua, HI

Field Biologist / Trait Introgression Coordinator *2011 – 2017*

- Managed 100+ multi-stacked inbred corn line projects from New Start to finishing handoff for targeted diverse geographies. Consistently delivered finished lines to pre-production customers.
- Managed proof of concept and event sorting nurseries.
- Excelled in working remotely with a diverse customer base and cross functional department collaboration in a continuous nursery setting
- Identified site improvement needs and completed process improvement projects contributing to site operation efficiency
- Led and mentored field technicians and staff focusing on infield training sessions to achieve QMS pollination standards, field research equipment training and protocol implementation.
- Led daily all staff morning communication meetings emphasizing Dow safety culture, daily job delegation and other site communications.
- Ran trait introgression and event sorting nurseries, managed nursery crews, managed shelling/shipping team, site MOC coordinator, Hawaii Near Miss Review board leader, site regulatory compliance auditor.

National Center for Soybean Biotechnology Genomics Lab, Columbia, MO

Research Associate *2009 – 2011*

- Developed framework and fine maps of the soybean genome
- Developed Recombinant Inbred Lines and Near Isogenic Lines for *soybeans*
- Developed and implemented an Hairy root transformation system for our lab
- Ran corresponding genetic testing + field testing of Soybean Cyst Nematode resistance genes
- Ran melting curves for acid profile genes in soybeans.
- Ran PCR or marker assisted breeding programs.

Romer Labs, Union, MO

Senior Research Technician /TI Nursery Manager /Equipment Operator *2007– 2009*

- Developed microwell assays for melamine detection and validated their efficacy in food, feed, and nutritional supplements.
- Trained and Certified elevator operators in rapid testing methodologies for mycotoxins, and herbicide resistance genes.
- Ran HPLC and Mass Spectrometry testing to detect the presence of unwanted substances in edible consumer products

University of Missouri, Columbia, MO

Lab Technician *2006 – 2007*

- Assisted in the generation of phylogenies of the monocots and the Brassicaceae family
- DNA and RNA extraction and isolation
- Sanger and 454 sequencing plate preparation

EDUCATION

Iowa State University **Ames, IA**
Master Science (MS), Plant Breeding (Anticipated Graduation Winter 2019)
University of Missouri **Columbia, MO**
Bachelor Science (BS), Plant Science
Minor Agricultural Economics

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- Six Sigma Green Belt Project Leader
- Proficient user of Microsoft Office Suite: Excel, Word, PowerPoint, SharePoint
- Intermediate knowledge of statistical software including Jmp and SAS
- Proficient user of multiple farm management software platforms, (ArcMap, Agrisoft, FarmWorks, etc)

PUBLICATIONS AND POSTERS

- "Selection of a Core Set of RILs from Forrest x Williams82 to Develop a Framework Map in Soybean", Theoretical and Applied Genetics. 2011_Xiaolei Wu, Tri D. Vuong, Jill A. LeRoy, Grover Shannon, David A. Sleper, and Henry T. Nguyen
- "Hawaii Business Environmental Report: Pesticides" Hawaii Buisness Magazine May 2016 by Ilima Loomis
- "Phylogenetic Relationships of the Monocots based on Phytochrome C Sequences": . J.Chris Pries, Michael S. Kinney, Jill LeRoy, Kate L. Hertweck, Stephanie A. Stewart. Sarah Matthews, Oliver Maurin, Mark W. Chase
- "Comparison of Transgenic Hairy Root Production Methods in Soybeans": Julianna Poole, Jill LeRoy, Henry T. Nguyen
- "Development of Near Isogenic Lines (NIL) for Target Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) Resistance": Tri Vuong, Jill LeRoy, Henry Nguyen, Grover Shannon
- "Development of a Sequencing-Based Genetic Mapping Approach": Xiangyang Xu, Tri Vuong, Jill A. Coombs and Henry Nguyen
- "Discovery and Characterization of Plant Genes for Resistance to Soybean Cyst Nematode (Heterodera glycines) in Soybean": T.D. Vuong, Yan Liu, Yongqing Jiao, Xiangyang Xu, Babu Valliyodan, Jill A. Coombs, J.G. Shannon, H.T. Nguyen
- "Improving EC Process Efficiency and Optimize Field Resource Use for DAS Agronomic Traits": Sreekala Chellamma, Wei Chen, Alex Liu, Jill Coombs, Stacy Weaver, Tristan Coram, Suyan Wang, Tanisha Caravello, Jim Connell—TPS& Discovery (2013 Continuous Improvement Gallery Walk)
- "Coordination of Field to Lab Processes in ZYMARK & AP-Z Shared DNA Projects": Amanda (Giammichele) Smith, Trisha Borowicz, Carolyn Brennan, Nianen Chen, Yan-san Chyi, Jill Coombs, Rebecca Goff, Linda Huang, Daniel Randolph, Joe Spinks, Lingyun Tang, Eric Whitted, Kent Steele, Lasantha Ubayasena—STRD (2013 Continuous Improvement Gallery Walk)
- "Encouraging Efficient Management of Seed Lab Activities Through Workspace Organization" Rebecca Hay (GBPL), Olivia Lor, Dylan Guerrero, Jorge Comacho Hernandez, Marshall parker, Jill Coombs (2014 Continuous Improvement Gallery Walk)
- "Reducing Time, Labor, and Ergonomic Hazards Associated with Sample Box Preparation" : Marshall Parker, Eric Fredrickson, Amanda Smith, Gina Buehner, Eric Whitted, Jeffrey Nagel, Luziminda Guerrero, Jill Coombs (2014 Continuous Improvement Gallery Walk)
- "Maize Adenylate Kinase (ZmADK) plays a crucial role in growth and development in maize plants" Staci Weaver, Marcelo German, Nathalia Moretti, Jill Coombs, Gao Zhifang, Cory Christensen, John Davies, Tristan Coram, Sreekala Chellamma (Plant Biology 2016 meeting- American Society of Plant Biologists)

PATENT APPLICATIONS

'A Novel Non-Destructive Method for Donor Trait Introgression In Crop Plants'

'Identification and Validation of Reference Gene Assays For QPCR Expression Analysis In Zea Mays Leaf Tissue Propagated In Indianapolis Greenhouses'

'Identification and Validation Of Reference Gene Assays For QPCR Expression Analysis In Zea Mays Leaf Tissue Propagated In Molokai, Hawaii Field Nurseries'

'Use of High Fidelity Nucleases In Plants To Induce Double Stranded Breaks In DNA And Subsequent Selectable Marker Excision'