

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Bayer, Kaunakakai, HI**

2017-present

#### *Production Lead*

- Attract and retain talent by mentoring, coaching, and developing my direct reports and all site employees.
- Steer the first virtual OnePSS production system implementation and drive continuous improvement projects and metrics.
- Develop and co-lead the Hawaii Communications Team and Statewide HSE Committee.
- Develop a long-range plan for the site and manage our inventory of capital assets, vehicles, and rolling stock.
- Maintain all site legal requirements including permits, licensing, etc.
- Cultivate community and industry relationships to maintain a positive public image and license to operate, including memberships and positions on multiple state appointed advisory boards.
- Manage all site operations and share best practices across the state and other foundation and field sites.
- Champion an atmosphere of teamwork, inclusion, communication, and collaboration.

### **Dow Agrosiences, Ho'olehua, HI**

2011 – 2017

#### *Trait Introgression Coordinator*

- Managed 100+ multi-stacked inbred corn line projects from first cross to finished handoff for targeted diverse global geographies. Consistently delivered finished lines to pre-production customers.
- Ran trait introgression, 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 under strict regulatory compliance standards.
- Identified site improvement needs and completed process improvement projects contributing to site operation efficiency.
- Led and mentored field technicians and biologist 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.
- Managed nursery crews, managed shelling/shipping team, site MOC coordinator, Hawaii Near Miss Review board leader, site regulatory compliance auditor.
- Received recognition for my contributions to the team that launched genotyping by sequencing and the Power Core Ultra trait package.

### **National Center for Soybean Biotechnology Genomics Lab, Columbia, MO**

2009 – 2011

#### *Research Associate*

- Developed framework and fine maps of the soybean genome.
- Developed soybean Recombinant Inbred Lines and Near Isogenic Lines.
- Developed and implemented a 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 for marker assisted breeding programs.

### **Romer Labs, Union, MO**

2007– 2009

#### *Technical Services Specialist*

- 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, as an AOAC Certified Analytical Chemist.

### **University of Missouri, Columbia, MO**

2006 – 2007

#### *Lab Technician*

- 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**

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### **Iowa State University**

*Master Science (MS), Plant Breeding November 2019*

**Ames, IA**

### **University of Missouri**

*Bachelor Science (BS), Plant Science May 2007*

*Minor Agricultural Economics*

**Columbia, MO**

## **ADDITIONAL SKILLS**

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- Six Sigma Green Belt Project Leader

## **SELECT PUBLICATIONS AND POSTERS**

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- "Brasicales phylogeny inferred from 72 plastid genes: A reanalysis of the phylogenetic localization of two paleoepid events and origin of novel chemical defenses" *American Journal of Botany* 2019. 105(3): 463-469 Patrick Edger, Jocelyn Hall, Alex Harkess, Michelle Tang, Jill Coombs, Setareh Mohammadin, M. Eric Schranz, Zhioyong Xiong, James Leebens-Mack, Blake C. Meyers, Kenneth J. Sysmsma, Marcus A. Koch, Ihsan A. Al-Shehbaz, and J. Chris Pires
- "Selection of a Core Set of RILs from Forrest x Williams82 to Develop a Framework Map in Soybean", 2011\_Xiaolei Wu, Tri D. Vuong, Jill A. LeRoy, Grover Shannon, David A. Sleper, and Henry 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)
- "Hawaii Business Environmental Report: Pesticides" *Hawaii Business Magazine* May 2016 by Ilima Loomis
- "Adaptation of temperate crops to support local food production for Molokai" Creative Component, Master of Science. Iowa State University 2019

## **PATENT APPLICATIONS**

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'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'