

Sara Andrea Moran Duran

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EDUCATION

New Mexico State University

Las Cruces, NM

Master of Science in Horticulture

December 2015

Thesis Title: Leaf net photosynthesis, leaf greenness and shoot lignin content of non-bearing pecan trees at two nitrogen and nickel application rates.

Pan-American University of Agriculture Zamorano

Yeguaré Valley, Honduras

Bachelor of Science in Rural Development and Environmental Science

December 2005

Thesis title: Illustrated Guide of Macro Fungi Species in Uyuca Hill.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Bernalillo County Cooperative Extension Service

Albuquerque, NM

Extension Horticulture Agent

December 2017 – Present

Supported Master Gardener Program.

Assisted Albuquerque community with their concerns about horticultural topics.

Extension Plant Science

Las Cruces, NM

Graduate Research Assistant

Fall 2012 – Fall 2015

- Designed and implemented a 2-year experimental research plan involving leadership and coordination with farmers' workers in 2 NM counties, and the analysis of 4 growth parameters, resulting in a completed thesis and in a soon-to-be publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
- Collected and classified field data from photosynthesis and chlorophyll measurements.
- Performed foliar plant analysis following laboratory safety procedures for microwave digestion and TKN.
- Analyzed data using Statistical Analysis Software and Microsoft Excel.
- Presented research results at Plant & Environmental Science Departmental Seminar.

Department of Plant and Environmental Science, NSMU

Las Cruces, NM

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2012 – Fall 2014

- Taught introductory-level plant and soil science laboratories to undergraduate students.
- Provided hands on experience on topics related to Plant and Environmental Science to develop student's critical thinking skills.
- Delegated weekly introductory-level plant and soil science assignments and evaluations to students.
- Communicated relevant information pertaining grades and other laboratory class material using an online student website.
- Coordinated field visits with local gardeners and farms.
- Selected and organized appropriate lectures and equipment to be use in each class.

Extension Plant Science, New Mexico State University**Las Cruces, NM***Extension Student Assistant*

Fall 2011

- Assisted and organized data collection taking at the field.
- Collaborated with research projects on pecan and pistachio.

Lakewood Nursery**Cypress, CA***Salesperson*

March 2009 – December 2010

- Applied customer service and sale skills at the nursery sale section. Elaborated of an inventory of Rose cultivars available for commercialization. Prepared chemical control for plant diseases and pathogens.
- Assisted Landscape design project for small residential sites.

SKILLS

- Proficient with laboratory and agricultural research equipment: Leaf area meter (Licor 3100), Plant Moisture Stress Pressure Chamber, Li-Cor 6400TX for non-destructive measurement of photosynthesis, SPAD 502 for non-destructive determination of total chlorophyll content.
- Fluent in Spanish.
- Computer: Basic SAS for statistical analysis, Microsoft Office.

MEMBERSHIPS AND TRAINING

- American Society for Horticulture Science (ASHS) (Since 2014).
- California Agriculture (Since 2015).
- Pecan South (Since 2015).
- Laboratory Safety (2014).
- Teaching tips for Graduate Assistant (2014).
- Worker Protection Standard (2014).
- Aerial lift and Ladder Safety (2012).
- Defensive Drive (2011).
- Employee Safety (2011).
- Hazard Communication (2011).

ACTIVITIES**Horticultural Forum club, New Mexico State University****Las Cruces, NM***Treasurer*

September 2012- April 2013

Organization of Aggie Students Inspiring Sustainability (OASIS),**New Mexico State University****Las Cruces, NM***Club Member*

Spring Semester 2011

AWARDS**Salopek Foundation Scholarship****Las Cruces, NM***Scholarship Recipient (multiple semesters)*

Fall 2013 - Spring 2014

New Mexico Crop Production Association Scholarship**Mescalero, NM***Scholarship Recipient*

Spring 2013

Long Beach Community College**Long Beach, CA***Dean's List with Great Distinction*

December 2010

Switzerland Total Funds Scholarship**Yeguaré Valley, Honduras***Scholarship Recipient (multiple semesters)*

January 2002 – December 2005