

Faculty Research Interests

PLANT PATHOLOGY



Cathie Aime

Mycology

Systematics, biology, and genomics of basidiomycetes with emphasis on rust fungi and tropical biodiversity.

maime@purdue.edu



Janna Beckerman

Ornamental and Fruit Diseases

Extension and research activities related to diseases of landscape ornamentals, nursery and greenhouse disease management, and small/tree fruit diseases.

jbeckerm@purdue.edu



Guohong Cai

Soybean Plant Pathology

Pathogen biology, population and genomics; host-pathogen interactions; and phytobiome.

cai192@purdue.edu



Zhixiang Chen CPB

Molecular Plant Pathogen Interactions

Molecular basis of plant disease resistance; regulation of gene expression and signal transduction during plant defense responses to microbial pathogens.

zhixiang@purdue.edu



Christian Cruz

Plant Disease Management

Fungal ecology, epidemiology, host resistance, sensor-based methods for disease detection and quantification, plant disease management, and crop biosecurity.

cd-cruz@purdue.edu



Steve Goodwin

Plant Pathology

Molecular genetics of host-pathogen interactions; population genetics, evolution and speciation of plant pathogenic fungi; genetics and genomics of disease resistance in small grains.

sgoodwin@purdue.edu



Anjali Iyer-Pascuzzi CPB

Molecular Plant Pathology

Molecular and genetic basis of bacterial wilt disease and root development in tomato and Arabidopsis.

asi2@purdue.edu



Guri Johal CPB

Maize Molecular Pathology and Genetics

Molecular and genetic basis of maize interactions with fungal pathogens; disease lesion mimic mutants and programmed cell death in maize.

gjohal@purdue.edu

OPEN POSITION

Turfgrass Pathology

Etiology, epidemiology, and management of turfgrass diseases.



Sue Loesch-Fries

Molecular Virology

Function of viral genes in virus replication, disease development, and virus control.

loeschfr@purdue.edu



Tesfaye Mengiste CPB

Molecular Genetics of Plant Immunity

Molecular genetics of plant immune responses to fungal pathogens.

mengiste@purdue.edu



Darcy Telenko

Field Crop Pathology

Extension and research on the biology and management of field crop diseases.

dtelenko@purdue.edu



Jin-Rong Xu

Fungal Biology

Characterization of infection-related signaling pathways and genes important for fungal-plant interactions in *Magnaporthe grisea* and *Fusarium graminearum*.

jinrong@purdue.edu



Lei Zhang

Plant Nematode Interactions

Focus on how nematode effectors manipulate plant process at the molecular level with the aim of developing new tools for nematode management in agriculture.

leizhang@purdue.edu

WEED SCIENCE



Kevin Gibson

Weed Science

Ecology, biology, and management of invasive plant species and herbicide resistant weeds.

kqgibson@purdue.edu



Bill Johnson

Weed Science

Biology and management of economically important weeds in agronomic crops; interactions between weeds, insects, and diseases.

wji@purdue.edu



Bryan Young

Weed Science

Weed biology and ecology relative to developing effective management strategies in agronomic crops, herbicide application technologies for optimization and stewardship of herbicide use, and the physiological characterization of herbicide resistant weed biotypes.

bryanyoung@purdue.edu

Faculty Research Interests

PLANT BIOLOGY



Leonor Boavida 
Plant Cell and Developmental Biology
Plant reproductive development, gamete identity and function, cell-cell communication.
lboavida@purdue.edu



Sharon Kessler 
Plant Cell and Developmental Biology
Signaling in plant reproductive development.
kessles@purdue.edu



Damon Lisch 
Plant Epigenetics
Epigenetic regulation of transposable elements in plants.
dlisch@purdue.edu



Scott McAdam 
Plant Evolutionary Physiology
Evolution of drought tolerance and response in plants, from stomatal behavior to xylem physiology and hormones.
smcadam@purdue.edu



Gordon McNickle 
Plant Ecology
Plant species coexistence and community structure. Ecological interactions with a focus on evolutionary game theory.
gmcnickle@purdue.edu



Mike Mickelbart 
Plant Physiology
Plant adaptation to the environment and plant water use.
mickelbart@purdue.edu



Christopher Oakley 
Ecological and Evolutionary Genetics of Plants
Genetic basis of local adaptation, consequences of genetic drift for adaptation and population persistence.
oakleyc@purdue.edu



Bob Pruitt 
Plant Molecular Biology
Molecular and genetic regulation of growth and development of plants and their interactions with bacteria.
pruittr@purdue.edu



Chris Staiger 
Plant Cell Biology
Cellular basis of plant disease resistance and cytoskeletal response to biotic stress.
staiger@purdue.edu



Dan Szymanski 
Plant Cell Biology
Genetics and cell biology of plant growth. Molecular genetics live cell imaging, biochemistry, computational modeling of plant cell morphogenesis.
dszyman@purdue.edu



Gyeong Mee Yoon 
Plant Hormone Biology
Molecular, genetic, and biochemistry basis of the gaseous plant hormone ethylene function; protein turnover regulation in ethylene biosynthesis; ethylene signaling pathway.
yoong@purdue.edu



Yun Zhou 
Plant Cell and Developmental Biology
Plant stem cells, transcriptional signaling in plant development, cell-cell communication, live imaging, quantitative developmental biology.
zhouyun@purdue.edu

 Member, Center for Plant Biology

For more information about education opportunities in the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Purdue University:
<https://ag.purdue.edu/btny/Pages/default.aspx>