



Please welcome

Dr. Christopher Oakley
Assistant Professor

Contact information:

Office: LILY, Room 1329

Lab: LSPS, Room 113/114

Phone: 765-494-8330

Email: oakleyc@purdue.edu

Dr. Chris Oakley uses experimental, genetic, and genomic approaches to investigate the ecological and evolutionary genetics of plants. Dr. Oakley earned his bachelor's degree in Botany from the University of Washington. He then earned a M.S. and Ph.D. degree in Biological Science from Florida State University, working on plant reproductive strategies and the genetic consequences of small population size. He then spent five years as a postdoctoral associate at Michigan State University working on the genetic basis of local adaptation and freezing tolerance in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Starting at Purdue in January 2017, his lab will focus on identifying the mechanisms that underlie local adaptation. Specifically he is interested in understanding how individual sequence polymorphisms result in changes in gene and trait expression that increase performance in one environment, but decrease performance in contrasting environments. A better understanding of the mechanisms of performance tradeoffs across environments may shed light on the "path of least resistance" for engineering stress resistance and resiliency in crops.