



## SKARLETH CHINCHILLA

BSc Agricultural Sciences

MSc Natural Resources

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### SUMMARY OF INTERESTS

I am an agricultural engineer from Escuela Agrícola Panamericana, El Zamorano. This institution is recognized in Latin America for its rigorous Learning-by-Doing program in the agricultural and life sciences. I also obtained an MSc in Natural Resources from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. My field of interest is applied ecology, sustainable agriculture, human dimensions of biodiversity, and Local Economic Development.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024

**Research Scholar - Ingwell Lab. Entomology Department, Purdue University.**

This laboratory is interested in understanding the community ecology and trophic-level interactions. Currently, we conduct research involving some plants' ecology, invasive insects, predator-prey interactions and biological control, insect-vectored plant pathogens, reservoir habitats, plant volatiles, and interactions between below- and above-ground communities.

2023-2024

**Program Officer. NGO Cesal (Western of Honduras).**

This non-governmental organization focuses on the Local Economic Development of rural communities and promotes the conservation of ecosystems and terrestrial biodiversity in Honduras. My intervention in this organization is linked to the coordination of activities that accomplish both objectives in the western zone of Honduras.

2024

**Founding Partner of Lions Club – Sultana de Occidente (Honduras).**

This world service organization focuses on satisfying the community's needs at local and global scales. Lions Club has projects on supporting vision, the environment, childhood cancer, hunger, diabetes, and more.

2023

**Founding Partner of Regenerative Alliance Foundation (Honduras).**

This is a multidisciplinary team that offers services on planning and implementing sustainable agricultural landscapes.

2022

**Educator of Soil Management and Conservation. Zamorano University.**

My intervention was linked to the education of young undergrads on how to tackle unsustainable land use and resource constraints within the context of climate change.

2022

**Founding Partner of the Honduran Association for Soil Conservation.**

ASOHCSUELO is a group of soil resource experts that seeks to strengthen environmental education and sustainable maintenance of soils in Honduras.

2021

**Coordinator of field activities in “Proyecto MI Biósfera”. Zamorano University.**

My intervention in this project was focused on the planning of activities that allow the transition of agricultural and livestock production in multifunctional and sustainable systems to ensure greater generation of ecosystem services.

- 2020 - 2024** **Active member of the Honduran Bat Conservation Program.**  
PCMH promotes environmental education in the Honduran territory and research to generate information about bats and create strategies for their conservation.
- 2019 - 2024** **Active member of the Fauna Australis Laboratory. Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.**  
Fauna Australis develops activities related to the conservation and management of wildlife, its ecosystems and coexistence with the people that lives in the territory.
- 2018** **Direct manager of broiler chicken production. Moisés Poultry Farm.**  
This project is a division of Mission UpReach. This is a non-governmental organization that focuses on the continuous development of children, youth, and adults from the most remote communities in the Western of Honduras. Its goal is to develop a new generation that aspires to lead a cultural transformation. Moisés Poultry Farm seeks to provide economic self-sustainability to Mission UpReach.
- 2017** **Research Scholar - Gómez Lab. Environmental Horticulture. University of Florida.**  
The laboratory is interested in technologies that seek to optimize horticultural systems through the understanding of plant-environment interactions. During my stay, I worked on a research project that evaluated the effects of spectral changes within a 24-hour period on plant growth and development.
- 2016 - 2017** **Research Scholar - Bohórquez Lab. School of Medicine. Duke University.**  
The lab is mapping neural circuits that transduce sensory signals from food in the gut to the brain. During my stay, I worked on neural circuit research.
- 2015** **Research Scholar - Brashears Lab. Texas Tech University.**  
The lab focuses on food technology. During my stay, I worked on research focused on *Salmonella enterica* prevalence on pre- and post-harvest environments in Honduras

#### EDUCATION

- 2019 - 2020** **Master's degree in Natural Resources focused on Biodiversity Conservation and Management** - Master thesis: "Livestock predation by jaguar (*Panthera onca*) and puma (*Puma concolor*): A case study in the Honduran Mosquitia", **Grade "A"**. Department of Ecosystems and Environment, School of Agriculture & Forestry Engineering, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Santiago, Chile.
- 2012 - 2015** **Bachelor's degree Engineer in Agricultural Sciences.**  
Department of Agricultural Sciences and Production. Zamorano University. Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

#### PUBLICATIONS

Bonacic C., **Chinchilla S.**, Arévalo C., Zarza H., Pacheco J., and Ceballos G. 2022. **"Hambre cero y conservación de la biodiversidad. Desafíos para la conservación de depredadores tope y la ganadería sostenible en Latinoamérica"**. *UNLANDES Journals*.. <https://doi.org/10.53010/nys2.01>

**Chinchilla S.**, Berghe E.v.d., Polisar J., Arévalo C, and Bonacic C. 2022. **"Livestock–Carnivore Coexistence: Moving beyond Preventive Killing"**. *Animals MDPI*. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani12040479>

**Chinchilla S., Izzo L., van Santen E., and Gómez C. 2018. “Growth and Physiological Responses of Lettuce Grown under Pre-Dawn or End-Of-Day Sole-Source Light-Quality Treatments”. *Horticulturae*. <https://doi.org/10.3390/horticulturae4020008>.**

Hoover B., Baena V., Kaelberer M.M., Getaneh F., **Chinchilla S.**, and. Bohórquez D.V. 2017. **“The Intestinal Tuft Cell Nanostructure in 3D”**. *Nature Scientific Reports*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-017-01520-x>.

### AWARDS

**Honor Award of competing at the annual meeting of the Institute of Food Technologists. Chicago, IL.**

This research focused on creating a baseline on the prevalence of *Salmonella enterica* in beef cattle fed diets derived from African palm, sugar cane, and poultry litter in Honduras.

### LANGUAGES

**Spanish (native) English (secondary)**

Effective communication and writing: I can express my ideas and opinions clearly and concisely in both Spanish and English.

### PERSONAL REFERENCES

**Laura Ingwell, PhD.**

Assistant Professor of Entomology  
Purdue University  
[lingwell@purdue.edu](mailto:lingwell@purdue.edu)

**Celina Gómez, PhD.**

Associate Professor of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture  
Purdue University  
[cgomezva@purdue.edu](mailto:cgomezva@purdue.edu)

**Cristian Bonacic, PhD.**

Associate Professor of Wildlife Management and Conservation  
Pontificia Catholic University of Chile  
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**Erik van den Berghe, PhD.**

Associate Professor of Ecology  
Zamorano University  
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