

# Global Agriculture Innovation Forum



## Food Processing for Markets July 20, 2021



### Moderator

**Dr. Elizabeth Mitcham**, Extension Specialist and Postharvest Pomologist - Department of Plant Sciences, University of California Davis. Dr. Mitcham works closely with the produce industry on a range of research and outreach activities and serves as director of the UC Postharvest Technology Center. Dr. Mitcham has been active in international development activities, and served as Director of the Horticulture Innovation Lab program from 2009 to 2019. She was selected Outstanding International Horticulturist, elected Vice-President of the International Division by the American Society for Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) in 2015 and 2016 and elected a Fellow of ASHS in 2020.



### Innovations in Shellfish Harvesting to Increase Entrepreneurship for Women

**Dr. Brietta Oaks**, Assistant Professor - Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, University of Rhode Island. Dr. Oaks has more than 10 years of experience in international nutrition research focused on women at risk for micronutrient deficiencies. She has been involved in research projects in Ghana and Malawi and recently led a nutrition research project among women shellfishers in Ghana. Her current research includes a research project in Ghana and The Gambia to examine the nutritional impact of oysters in the diet of women shellfishers.



## Food Processing Innovations for Enterprise Development

**Dr. Jorge Cardona**, Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Zamorano University. Dr. Cardona teaches courses, coordinates research and extension related to fruits and vegetables, and manages the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Plant and the Postharvest Plant at Zamorano. His research interests include application of industrial, chemical microbiological and analytical methodologies to fruits and vegetables, analysis of raw material composition, coffee and cacao processing and new product development.



## Peri-urban Horticulture Development of Vegetables

**Dr. Jim Simon**, Distinguished Professor of Plant Biology, Rutgers University. Dr. Simon serves as Director of the Rutgers Center for Agricultural Food Ecosystems (RUCAFE), New Jersey Institute of Food, Health, and Nutrition, and the Rutgers New Use Agriculture and Natural Plant Products Program. He has extensive experience in global food systems and has worked in dozens of countries overseas where he uses a market-first science-driven model to commercialize horticultural crops and botanicals from production through post-harvest. Dr. Simon has been involved in USAID funded projects for over 20 years, largely in sub-Saharan Africa, and always with a participatory approach focusing on training women and youth and in using horticulture and botanicals for income generation, jobs creation and improved nutrition.

## Forum themes

- Farms and Farmers of the Future - **March 2 - 30, 2021**
- Innovations in Genetic Improvement of Agricultural Systems - **May 11 - June 8, 2021**
- Innovations in Post-Harvest Management – **July 13 - 27, 2021**
- Innovations in Information & Communication Technologies - **August 31-Sept. 14, 2021**
- Innovations in Entrepreneurship, Especially Among Youth – **October 5 - 19, 2021**
- Innovations in Scaling – **November 16 - December 7, 2021**

## About the Global Agriculture Innovation Forum:

The Global Agriculture Innovation Forum is a joint undertaking between USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and Purdue University's Office of International Programs in Agriculture. The Forum will be valuable to entrepreneurs, producers, value-chain operators, service providers, and researchers, as well as donor agencies and implementing partners and consists of a series of virtual events held throughout 2021.

**globalaginnovationforum.org, Twitter: @PurdueIntlAg**

