

ANDREW DERKSEN

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EDUCATION

University of Florida, TREC: Homestead, Florida. Master of Science. August 2009. Department of Entomology:

“Host susceptibility and population dynamics of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) on select ornamental hosts in southern Florida.”

Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa. Bachelor of Arts, May 2000.

Double Major: Biology and Anthropology

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Biological Scientist II, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Miami, Florida. Design and implement survey programs to detect eighteen potential arthropod pests of significance to national and Florida agriculture. Present monthly and quarterly reports documenting samples identified in surveys, and coordinate with counterparts at the USDA. Remain familiar with the literature and whereabouts of potential and unexpected pests that might arrive in the United States. (May '09 – Present)

Research Assistant, Mannion Lab, University of Florida. Homestead, Florida. Research project explored the impact and behavior of the invasive thrips *Scirtothrips dorsalis* on ornamental hosts in southern Florida. Identified insect specimens brought into the plant clinic. (August '06 – Present)

Research Associate, Advanced Genetics; Lexicon Genetics. The Woodlands, Texas. Invited to join division responsible for high-throughput breeding and clinical observation of thirty plus lines of mice presenting strong phenotypes critical to Lexicon's pharmaceutical discovery program. Presented monthly comparisons of published data on select genes to Lexicon's observed phenotype for department directors. (May '03 – August '06)

Research Assistant, Chimeric Development; Lexicon Genetics. The Woodlands, Texas. Responsible for high-throughput breeding and project tracking of twenty-plus lines of knock-out mice in barrier facility to confirm germline for Lexicon and clients' pharmaceutical discovery programs. BLASTed contract sequence data to prevent duplication of effort. (February '01 – May '03)

Lab Assistant, Grinnell College Plant Biology Department. Grinnell, Iowa. Tested college's new gas-analysis instrument package. Aided in the preparation and design of the lab manual for the plant physiology course. (August '98 - December '98)

Technology Assistant, Commercial Strategies and Supply Management; Marathon Oil. Ensured Marathon Oil Y2K compliance, and developed official

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compliance statement. Cooperated with corporate partners to achieve Y2K compliance, and aided in web-page design. (May '98 - August '98)

Information Technology Specialist, Information Technology Support; Marathon Oil. Maintained and repaired 450+ Macintosh and IBM-Compatible personal computers for the Exploration department with a team of twelve other specialists. Assisted in the Houston portion of the company-wide Windows NT server switchover. (May '97 - January '98)

VOLUNTEER

Assistant Technician: Dickinson Museum; Department of Vertebrate Paleontology. Participated in sample collection and preparation of Pliocene remains from Newberry Quarry site as part of the "Tapir Challenge". (August '06 - November '06)

Sci//Tech Judge: Montgomery Community College. The Woodlands, Texas. Judged high-school competitors' performance and technique using PCR to identify unknown sequences. (February '06)

Field Assistant: Mosquito Control; Harris County Department of Health and Environment. Houston, Texas. Collected local mosquito larvae, and began independent project to determine pesticide resistance of area salt marsh mosquito species using CDC bottle bioassay and PCR-based molecular studies. Assisted in development of PCR-based technique to amplify West Nile in avian blood sera. Results published in annual report. Learned basic insectary maintenance and species identification. Helped map responses to education programs. (October '00 - December '00)

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant, University of Florida Department of Entomology. Gainesville, Florida. ENY 3005 - Principles of Entomology. (January '07 - May '07)

Middle School Science, Assistant for special projects; Grinnell Middle School. Grinnell, Iowa. Aided gifted and talented middle-school students with higher-level biology projects. (September '99 - December '99)

AWARDS

2008 Student and Young Professional Award: For participation in and support of the Entomological Society of America at national meeting. (January '09)

Dennis Carpenter Memorial Fellowship: To support a study observing the seasonal population dynamics and daily flight activity of the chili thrips, *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, in southern Florida. (February '08)

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Lexicon Award for Excellence: For designing and implementing Lexicon's cryopreservation initiative for lines no longer under investigation. (March '06)

PUBLICATIONS

PEER REVIEWED

NON-REFEREED

PRESENTATIONS

- **Griffiths, K. G., A. Derksen. 2009.** "Biology and symptoms of the redbay ambrosia beetle, *Xyleborus glabratus* Eichhoff (Coleoptera: Curculonidae), and laurel wilt, *Raffaelea lauricola* sp. nov. (Ophiostomatales: Ophiostomataceae)." Florida Department of Plant Industry Region III Plant Inspector Update and Training. Davie, Florida.
- **Derksen, A. I. 2009.** "Host susceptibility and population dynamics of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) on select ornamental hosts in southern Florida." TREC seminar series. Homestead, Florida.
- **Derksen, A. I., C. Mannion, D. R. Seal, L. Osborne, and B. Schaffer. 2008.** "Annual population dynamics of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) on two ornamental hosts in southern Florida." Poster presentation (student competition) at the annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America. Reno, Nevada.
- **Derksen, A. I. 2007.** "Insects are everywhere!" UF Entomology Education and Outreach. Gainesville, Florida.

PHOTOGRAPHY

- **Catalpha Advertising & Design:** image of adult *S. dorsalis* used in promotional materials for DM Health Systems' product that screens minute insects. (September '08)
- **Greenhouse Canada Magazine:** image of adult *S. dorsalis* used in article, "Greenhouse Grower Notes: Global ties can create a dilemma", on recently introduced invasive insects. (May '08)

MEMBERSHIPS

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- **The Entomological Society of America:** Member (September '06 – Present).
- **Florida Entomological Society:** Member (June '07 – Present).

COMMITTEES

- **UF Department of Entomology and Nematology Seminar Committee:** Identified, scheduled, and invited prominent and topical speakers for diverse topics in entomology. (August '06 – May '08)
- **Environmental Health and Safety Committee:** Lexicon Genetics, Inc. The Woodlands, Texas. Met biannually to discuss Lexicon safety policy, and to

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- offer suggestions that promoted increased employee safety and awareness. (January '04 – August '06)
- **Regional Coordinator:** Grinnell Regional Admission Support Program. Scheduled interviews between alumni volunteers and prospective students. Planned meet-and-greet events for successful candidates and current students. Represented the College at Montgomery and Harris County college fairs. (July '05 – August '06)
 - **Grinnell Regional Admission Support Program (GRASP) Volunteer:** Interviewed prospective students, and represented Grinnell College at Montgomery and Harris County college fairs. (June '00 – July '05)