

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

Languages spoken: Spanish (fluent: 4 years Argentina, 10 years education)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Biological Scientist II: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Miami, Florida. Design and implement survey programs to detect current and potential arthropod pests of significance to national and Florida agriculture at low frequencies. Present monthly and quarterly reports documenting samples identified in surveys, and coordinate with counterparts at other agencies. Develop and present educational programs to train collaborators on the life history and behavior of organisms of concern. (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 – May '09)

Research Associate: Lexicon Pharmaceuticals. The Woodlands, Texas. Responsible for high-throughput breeding and clinical observation of thirty plus lines of mice presenting strong phenotypes critical to Lexicon's pharmaceutical discovery program. BLASTed contract sequence data to prevent duplication of effort. Presented monthly comparisons of published data on select genes to Lexicon's observed phenotype for department directors. (February '01 – August '06)

VOLUNTEER

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)

AWARDS

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

Lexicon Award for Excellence: received for establishing cryopreservation program to preserve lines no longer under investigation. (March '06)