

Sensilla

Editor: Edmond Bonjour

JULY NEWS

Vol. 30 No. 7
July 2018

OSU

Entomology and Plant Pathology



Noble Research Center for Agricultural
and Renewable Natural Resources

July Calendar of Events

Independence Day – University Holiday	Jul	4
Defense Seminar – Sara Wallace	Jul	6
Second 4-week Summer Session Begins	Jul	9
Defense Seminar – Felipe Cevallos	Jul	16
Defense Seminar – Santiago Molina Cardenas	Jul	17
International Congress of Plant Pathology Begins	Jul	29

August Calendar of Events

International Congress of Plant Pathology Continues	Aug	1-3
Summer Term Ends	Aug	3
Faculty Meeting	Aug	10
Classes Begin	Aug	20

New Graduate Student

Brett Johnson began his M.S. degree with **Dr. John Damicone** on June 11. His research will focus on surveying foliar diseases of tomatoes and management of bacterial spot in field-grown tomatoes. Brett received his B.S. degree in Horticulture from OSU in December 2015.

Congratulations!

Dr. Wyatt Hoback received a Vice President for Research Mentor/Mentee Grant which pairs a seasoned researcher with a newer faculty counterpart on a specific project. Dr. Hoback will work with mentor Dr. John Gustafson from Biochemistry and Molecular Biology on a project titled, “Proposal to Characterize Genes Involved in Burying Beetle Preservation of Meat to Improve Meat Storage.”

Dr. Eric Rebek was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor during the OSU/A&M Board of Regents meeting on June 22.

Kylie Sherrill received a Bayer Animal Health and the Multistate Project S-1060 Travel Award.

Dr. Astri Wyadande received a Vice President for Research Mentor/Mentee Grant. She will mentor Dr. Darren Hagen in Animal and Food Sciences on a project titled, “Decoding the Role of Small RNAs in Cross-kingdom Communication.” She was also promoted from Associate Professor to Professor during the OSU/A&M Board of Regents meeting on June 22.

July Birthdays

Tom Royer	July 3
Stephanie Dayton	July 12
Teersa Kramer	July 14
Rachel Visina	July 15
Cora Vandaveer	July 18
Kevin Shufran	July 23
Sarah Davey	July 25
Ova Fofah	July 25
Nathan Walker	July 28
Jen Olson	July 31

Alumni News

Dr. Will Jessie was hired in May as a Field Crops Extension Agent for Oregon State University’s College of Agricultural Sciences. He will be covering crops in Linn, Benton, and southern Polk counties in the Willamette Valley. Will received his B.S. degree in Natural Resource Ecology and Management with an option in Wildlife Ecology and Management from OSU in 2008, his B.S. degree in Zoology from OSU in 2009, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Entomology and Plant Pathology from OSU in December 2013 and December 2017, respectively, under the direction of **Dr. Kris Giles**. Will’s wife, **Dr. Casi Jessie**, is a postdoctoral fellow working on slugs with Dr. Rory McDonnell at Oregon State University.

Dan St. Aubin began his new position as a Technical Support Specialist at Tomlin Scientific, Inc. in Buena Park, California on June 4. His duties include research and development, quality control, and writing technical documents such as standard operating procedures and safety data sheets. Dan received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Entomology and Plant Pathology from OSU in December 2015 and December 2017, respectively, with **Dr. Wyatt Hoback** serving as his advisor for his M.S. degree.

Dr. Chris Timmons is Vice President of Research and Development and Dr. Kedar Pai is President of Plasma Bionics LLC in Stillwater. This innovative biotech company was named the 2018 “Most Promising New Business” by the Oklahoma Venture Forum. The award represents the triumph of the entrepreneurial dream and spirit. Plasma Bionics LLC is a veterinary sterilization device manufacturing company that utilizes a proprietary cold plasma generation technology to rapidly and safely sterilize veterinary instruments with no water or harmful chemicals. The company is poised to launch its first product, the PZ100 Air Plasma Sterilizer, this summer. Chris received his B.S. degree in Biology from the University of Texas at Tyler in 2010, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Entomology and Plant Pathology from OSU in December 2012 and July 2016, respectively, both under the direction of **Dr. Li Ma**.