

Sensilla

Editor: Edmond Bonjour

SEPTEMBER NEWS

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OSU

Entomology and Plant Pathology



Noble Research Center for Agricultural
and Renewable Natural Resources

September Calendar of Events

Labor Day – University Holiday	Sep	2
Seminar – Anju Ara, Francisco Mosquera, & Jamie Eastep	Sep	6
Land-Grant Week	Sep	9-13
Departmental Welcome OSU Student Picnic	Sep	10
Grand Opening of Agriculture Hall – 4:30 p.m.	Sep	12
Seminar – Dr. Koch Bach	Sep	13
Early-bird Registration Deadline for ESA Annual Meeting	Sep	16
Seminar – Dr. Faske	Sep	20
Seminar – Dr. Wilder	Sep	27

October Calendar of Events

Seminar – Dr. Bolek	Oct	4
Seminar – Dr. Rusch	Oct	11
OSU Agriculture Honors Celebration	Oct	11
Seminar – Dr. Barro	Oct	18
Seminar – Abu Abir	Oct	25

Congratulations!

Dr. Justin Talley was elected as the Southwestern Branch Representative to the Governing Board of the Entomological Society of America. His service will begin in November.

Departmental Welcome OSU Student Picnic

A Welcome OSU Student Picnic for everyone in the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology will be held on September 10 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. on the lawn east of the Noble Research Center. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, dessert, and water will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share and lawn chairs or a blanket.

New Graduate Students

Tanner Dollar is beginning his M.S. degree with **Dr. Mustafa Jibrin**. His research will focus on aspects of grape pathology, which he began as an intern in Dr. Jibrin's laboratory under the OSU Undergraduate Extension Scholar Program. Tanner received his B.S. degree in Horticulture and Landscape Architecture from OSU in 2024.

Faith England is beginning her M.S. degree with **Dr. Bruce Noden**. Her research will focus on screening soft-bodied agricultural insects and stored product insects for the presence of microorganisms. Faith received her B.S. degree in Entomology from OSU in May 2024.

Jaeley Gattis is beginning her M.S. degree with **Dr. Francisco Ochoa Corona**. Her research will focus on microbiome analysis and HTS-based detection of endosymbionts in *Bemisia tabaci* biotypes. Jaeley received her B.S. degree in Entomology from OSU in May 2024.

Sarah LaFramboise is beginning her M.S. degree with **Dr. Francisco Ochoa Corona**. Her research will focus on developing a method for virus testing of seeds. Sarah received her B.S. degree in Entomology from OSU in May 2023.

Gideon Morris is beginning his M.S. degree with **Dr. Wyatt Hoback**. His research will focus on surveys of Oklahomans who own pigs to reduce disease transmission. Gideon received his B.S. degree in Entomology from OSU in May 2024.

Luana Muller is beginning her M.S. degree with **Dr. Maira Duffeck**. Her research will focus on evaluating the efficacy and profitability of fungicide applications to manage foliar diseases in soybeans using meta-analytical models. Luana received her B.S. degree in Agronomy from the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil, in 2022.

Gabriela Paredes is beginning her M.S. degree with **Dr. Stephen Marek**. Her research will focus on characterizing disease resistance in novel hybrid peanut lines by screening for resistance to yellow mold caused by *Aspergillus flavus* and will follow production of its mycotoxin aflatoxin. She will also screen lines for resistance to Pythium peg, pod, and root rots. Gaby received her B.S. degree in Biotechnology Engineering from Universidad de las Fuerzas Armadas - ESPE in 2023.

Mharlhon Pena is beginning his M.S. degree with **Dr. Andres Espindola**. His research will focus on utilizing genome-wide E-probes for designing in-field diagnostic assays to rapidly detect fungal plant pathogens. Mharlhon received his B.S. degree in Plant Science from California State University – Fresno in 2024.

Usman Rabi is beginning his Ph.D. candidacy with **Dr. Mustafa Jibrin**. His research will focus on aspects of pecan pathology and the use of novel molecules for disease management. Before arriving at OSU, he was an Assistant Lecturer at Khadija University, Majia, Nigeria where he taught several courses in Biology and Biostatistics. Usman received his B.S. degree in Biology from Usmanu Danfodiyo University in Sokoto, Nigeria in 2018, and his M.S. degree in Plant Biotechnology from Mewar University in Chittorgarh, India in 2021.

Jing Zhang is beginning her Ph.D. candidacy with **Dr. Andres Espindola**. Her research will focus on enhancing computational approaches for HTS data in pathogen detection and discovery across microbial communities. Jing received her B.Ag. degree in Forestry from Shandong Agricultural University in Tai'an, China in 2015, her M.Ag. degree in Forest Genetics and Breed from Nanjing Forestry University in Nanjing, China in 2018, and her M.S. degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from OSU in 2024.

Notice

Alex Harman resigned his position as Insect Diagnostician effective August 18 to concentrate on completing his Ph.D. candidacy.

Necrology

Dr. David Kent Reed, aged 92, passed away on August 7, 2024, in Wichita Falls, Texas. He was born on March 6, 1932, in Burkburnett, Texas, to Claude and Vera Reed, and graduated from Burkburnett High School.

David received his B.S. degree from Purdue University in 1956, his M.S. degree from Texas A&M University in 1960, and his Ph.D. degree in 1971 from the University of California – Riverside in 1971, all in Entomology. He began his career as a Research Entomologist with the USDA-ARS in 1961 and came to Stillwater in 1988 to focus on the biological control of the Russian wheat aphid using parasitoids and fungus. He directed various laboratories and traveled globally, including China to South Africa and Chile to Poland. He served as a diplomat in Seoul, South Korea, at the Asian Parasite Laboratory. After a distinguished career with the USDA and teaching entomology at OSU, he retired on December 1, 1993.

David served two years in the U.S. Army, at Fort Sam Houston and at Fort Sill. He married Shirley Smith on September 1, 1958.

A devout member of the Church of Christ, David was an elder and deacon and usually in charge of the benevolence programs, so he strove to aid those in need. His commitment to spiritual education was evident in his passion for studying and teaching the Bible, with a particular focus on the discourse between creation and evolution.

His hobbies included traveling and immersing himself in different cultures, which complemented his professional and spiritual pursuits, enriching his understanding and teachings of the natural world. His love of nature extended to his fondness for animals, but mainly dogs, of which he had at least one his entire life. His love of photography brought many slideshows to his family. He also loved music, especially Mario Lanza, Big Band music, Broadway tunes, and elevator music.

David is survived by his wife, Shirley Smith Reed; his children, Kelly Reed, Kyle Reed, and Marla Reed Mahar; his grandchildren, Brendan Reed, Brianna Reed Richardson, Mitchell Mahar, Veronika Reed, and Viktor Reed; and his great-grandchildren, Liam Richardson, Noah Richardson, Miles Richardson, and Sawyer Reed. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers: John Ralston and Jack Reed. A funeral service was held at the Burkburnett Church of Christ on August 14, 2024.

Departmental Seminars

Seminars will be held at 2:30 p.m. in Room 207 NRC.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Title</u>
Sep. 6	Anju Ara Francisco Mosquera Jamie Eastep	Introductory Seminars
Sep. 13	Dr. Rachel Koch Bach	A Multifaceted Approach to Understanding the Evolution and Diversity of Emerging and High-risk Fungal Pathogens to U.S. Agriculture
Sep. 20	Dr. Travis Faske	Managing Nematodes in Corn and Soybean
Sep. 27	Dr. Shawn Wilder	My Journey Learning to Teach Better

September Birthdays

Iris Brodie	September 3
Meghan Gilliland	September 4
Kiran Mysore	September 4
Yang Wang	September 4
Jaeley Gattis	September 5
Stephenie Noble	September 5
Will Whittington	September 5
Barbara Brown	September 6
Willie Collins	September 7
Jack Taylor	September 15
Richard Nelson	September 17
Gerry Smith	September 17
Angelique Robinson	September 21
Aubrey Guest	September 22
Kayden Nickel	September 22
Clover Wright	September 24
Mikaela Anderson	September 29
Zach Burlison	September 29
Kristen Baum	September 29
Becky Spencer	September 29
Edmond Bonjour	September 30