



DEPARTMENT OF

HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



Research Overview

Horticulture applies knowledge from fields of science and biology to improve production and develop sustainable practices for high value, intensively cultivated crops including those used for food, landscapes, ornamentals and medicine. In Landscape Architecture, we analyze, plan, and design the natural and built environment using science, art, and technology.

Combining knowledge from biochemistry, physiology, molecular biology, genetics and ecology with aspects of design, function, and beauty, horticulture and landscape architecture includes people with a broad range of interests.

Research Areas

- Sustainable practices for horticultural crop production
- Alternative crops and cultivars adapted to low-input and organic production systems
- Improvement of postharvest fruit quality
- Controlled environment agriculture
- Herbicide physiology, weed ecology, and mechanisms of herbicide resistance
- Plant interactions with soil microbial communities
- Plant growth and development
- Plant responses to the environment and abiotic stress
- Adapting crops to climate change
- Epigenetic regulation
- Genome editing
- Systems biology
- Plant metabolic biochemistry
- Plant natural product discovery
- Landscape systems and design; land use and planning; landscape ecology
- Plant Nutrition
- Drought Tolerance and Water Management
- Horticultural marketing
- Horticultural education

*Pictured at left from top:
Dr. Lori Hoagland, Dr. Paul
Siciliano Jr, Dr. Aaron Patton,
Dr. Ariana Torres and a
Horticulture greenhouse
at night*

LINDA PROKOPY
DEPARTMENT HEAD

lprokopy@purdue.edu | 765.494.1300

625 Agriculture Mall Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2010
Purdue University College of Agriculture



Josh Widhalm studies sea slugs to understand how some of the creatures are able to steal the organelles necessary for photosynthesis from the algae they eat.

Faculty Research Areas

Barbarash, David M.	Digital Landscape Representation	dbarbara@purdue.edu
Bigelow, Cale A.	Turfgrass Science; Soil Properties and Turfgrass Nutrition	cbigelow@purdue.edu
Bilenky, Moriah	Sustainable Horticulture	mbilenky@purdue.edu
Bressan, Ray	Stress Physiology	bressan@purdue.edu
Dana, Mike	Native Species for the Landscape	dana@purdue.edu
Dudareva, Natalia	Plant Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	dudareva@purdue.edu
Gómez, Celina	Controlled Environment Agriculture, Hydroponics, Plant Propagation	cgomezva@purdue.edu
Guan, Wenjing	Vegetable and Melon Crop Production	guan40@purdue.edu
Hallett, Steve	Sustainable Agriculture	halletts@purdue.edu
Handa, Avtar	Post Harvest and Molecular Biology	ahanda@purdue.edu
Hirst, Peter	Pomology	hirst@purdue.edu
Hoagland, Lori	Speciality Crop Production Systems	lhoaglan@purdue.edu
Huang, Yiwei	Landscape Performance and Landscape Ecology	huan1655@purdue.edu
Li, Ying	Functional Genomics; Plant Responses to the Environment	li2627@purdue.edu
Maynard, Elizabeth	Sustainable Vegetable Production	emaynard@purdue.edu
Meyers, Stephen	Specialty Crop Weed Science	slmeyers@purdue.edu
Mickelbart, Mike	Horticulture/Plant Physiology	mmickelb@purdue.edu
Mitchell, Cary	Controlled Environment Agriculture	cmitchel@purdue.edu
Nemali, Krishna	Controlled Environment Agriculture; Hydroponics, Indoor Farming, Floriculture	knemali@purdue.edu
Orvis, Kathryn	Horticulture/Youth Education	orvis@purdue.edu
Patton, Aaron	Turfgrass Management Systems, Turf Weed Science	ajpatton@purdue.edu
Porterfield, D. Marshall	Controlled Environment Agriculture	porterf@purdue.edu
Prokopy, Linda	Horticultural Social Science	lprokopy@purdue.edu
Raghothama, K.G.	Molecular Biology of Plant Nutrition	kraghoth@purdue.edu
Rotar, Sean Michael	American Landscape History, Design Pedagogy	srotar@purdue.edu
Siciliano, Paul C Jr	History and Theory of Landscape Architecture, Purdue Arboretum	sicilian@purdue.edu
Thompson, Aaron	Human, Ecological, and Spatial Dimensions of Land Use Planning	awthomps@purdue.edu
Torres, Ariana	Marketing of Specialty Crops	torres2@purdue.edu
Varala, Kranthi	Plant Abiotic Stress; Systems Biology	kvarala@purdue.edu
Widhalm, Joshua	Plant Natural Product Metabolism	jwidhalm@purdue.edu