

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SENIOR RESEARCH ASSISTANT

NMSU Sustainable Ag. Science Ctr. Alcalde, NM | 10/2018 - Present

- Advise and provide technical assistance to statewide 'Seed Group' of farmers/ranchers motivated to employ regenerative agriculture practices on their land.
 - ◊ Design a 5 year on-farm regenerative agriculture trial for a S. NM crop producer based on their vision, goals, and resources. Specify treatment comparisons, plot layout, irrigation and fertility requirements, cover crop selection and termination, and soil test schedule.
 - ◊ Develop a list of resources and recommended soil health tests best suited for NM soils.
 - ◊ Educate landowners on lab tests and interpretations. Train them on field assessment methods.
- Collaborate with Extension, NMSU researchers, and local farmers on drafting competitive WSARE grant proposal to fund a 3-6 year, \$340K study focusing on NRCS Soil Health principles and appropriate strategies for the arid southwest. Grant proposal was not funded.
- Design and implement agricultural research experiments involving compost, soil fertility, and sustainable crop management.
- Perform microbial assessments of field soils and compost using direct microscopy methods.
- Create and present compost research poster at national SSSA conference.

LAB TECH I

NMSU Sustainable Ag. Science Ctr. Alcalde, NM | 10/2017 - 10/2018

- Harvest and prepare fruit/vegetables for testing and data collection, prune orchard trees, and assist with seasonal field maintenance.
- Build static, aerated compost systems and compare different recipes. Design a hoophouse trial to assess the effectiveness of the compost on improving soil fertility, plant growth, and crop production.

COMPOST FACILITY MANAGER

Compost Santo Nambé, NM | 7/2016 - 8/2017 : 1 year

- Produce 100 cubic yards of premium and bulk compost per year.
- Develop preliminary marketing plan targeting local and national consumers.
- Design logo, draft website content and manage Facebook Page.
- Monitor compost quality through periodic microbial assays and plant growth tests.
- Maintain compost records and files, submit annual NMED reports, manage sales.
- Apply compost and compost tea to the farm.

LAB & COMPOST FACILITY MANAGER

Harrington's Organic Landcare Bloomfield, CT | 6/2009 - 6/2011 : 2 years

- Serve as Soil Test Lab Manager and Compost/Compost Tea Producer for an organic landcare company.
- Perform chemical and biological soil tests and provide soil amendment recommendations.
- Purchase, use, and maintain lab equipment including microscopes and ICP spectrometer.
- Manage a 10 cubic yd. vermicompost operation and brew up to 3,000 gallons of compost tea per day.

EDUCATION

CONWAY SCHOOL OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN **M.A. LANDSCAPE DESIGN, 2008**

CSLD teaches ecologically and socially sustainable landscape design, emphasizing effective oral, visual and written communication skills. Three projects were completed for clients:

A Master Plan, was developed for a 55-acre family farm transitioning from conventional agriculture to an organic CSA. Sustainable agricultural practices were proposed to protect soil fertility, reduce water usage, utilize renewable energy, and apportion the land into rotational vegetable and livestock grazing plots.

A Residential Landscape Design was completed for an historic farmhouse.

An Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) was drafted for the Town of Bernardston, MA, enabling them to pursue state funding to conserve land, guide appropriate development, and preserve their historic town character.

TUFTS UNIVERSITY **B.S. GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES, 1996**

TRAINING & VOLUNTEER

NM SOIL HEALTH CHAMPION

Natl. Assn. Conservation Districts | 3/2020 to Present

GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBER/CHAIR

La Tierra Montessori Charter School Española, NM | 10/2017 to Present

- Draft and approve school policies; enter into contracts; hire and evaluate the Principal; provide fiscal oversight of \$1.2M budget; resolve formal grievances and legal matters; interface between the school and NMPED. School serves 70 children in grades K-6.

CERTIFIED SOIL FOODWEB ADVISOR

EarthFort Corvallis, OR | 12/2009 : 2 weeks

- Trained to perform Quantitative and Qualitative Soil Biology Tests which were designed by Dr. Elaine Ingham. Operated an epifluorescent microscope.
- Identified, measured, and quantified soil microbes. Assessed soil health based on several factors including measuring active to total biomass of bacteria and fungi, and analyzing the presence or absence of protozoa and nematodes.

MASTER GARDENER INTERN

UVM Extension Brattleboro, VT | 2/2009 - 4/2009; 3 months

SOFTWARE & LANGUAGE

Advanced: Microsoft Office (Word & Excel), Powerpoint

Intermediate: InDesign, Photoshop

Learning: Social Media

Proficient in Spanish (Lived in Spain for 9 months and Central America for 6 months)