

Xinmi Zhang

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Education

Sep 2017 – present	Ph.D.	University of California, Riverside (UCR)
Aug 2015 – May 2017	M.S.	Auburn University
Aug 2011 – Jun 2015	B.S.	China Agricultural University (CAU)

Research Experience

2017 - present **University of California, Riverside** **Advisor: Dr. Alec Gerry**

Ph.D. project

- Investigate the diel host-seeking activity of *Culicoides sonorensis* biting midge at a southern California dairy
- Investigate the bluetongue virus overwintering mechanism in southern California
- Study the species diversity and developing DNA barcodes for *Culicoides* spp. in the Boyd Deep Canyon
- Compare trapping methods and trapping locations of *Culicoides* species collection

2015 - 2017 **Auburn University** **Advisor: Dr. Derrick Mathias, Dr. Nannan Liu**

M.S. thesis: Investigating the transmission of epizootic hemorrhagic disease virus (EHDV) among white-tailed deer in Alabama

- Investigate the *Culicoides* vector(s) of EHDV in Alabama, particularly in locations where the only proven vector (*Culicoides sonorensis*) is absent.
- Study feeding behavior of *Culicoides* spp. using blood meal analysis and identified potential reservoirs of EHDV other than white-tailed deer.

2014 - 2015 **China Agricultural University** **Advisor: Dr. Xiaoxia Liu**

B.S. thesis: Examining the influence of different physical isolation belts on the gene flow of genetically modified (GM) cotton (Breed: Shiyuan321) in the field and under fixed wind speed

Presentations

Nov 17 - 20, 2019	Three-minute presentation at the ESA Annual Meeting
Nov 17 - 20, 2019	Poster presentation at the ESA Annual Meeting
Sep 17, 2019	Poster presentation at the Department of Entomology Student Seminar Day, UCR
Nov 10 - 14, 2018	Oral presentation at the ESA Joint Meeting
Sep 19, 2018	Oral presentation at the Department of Entomology Student Seminar Day, UCR
Apr 12 - 13, 2017	Poster presentation at “This is Research: Student Symposium”, Auburn University
Mar 12 - 15, 2017	Poster presentation at the 91 st Annual Meeting of the SE Branch of the ESA

Publications

1. B. L. McGregor, K. E. Sloyer, K. A. Saylor, O. Goodfriend, J. M. C. Krauer, C. Acevedo, **X. Zhang**, D. Mathias, S. M. Wisely, and N. D. Burkett-Cadena. 2019. Field data implicating *Culicoides stellifer* and *Culicoides venustus* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) as vectors of epizootic hemorrhagic disease virus. *Parasit. Vectors.* 12: 258.

2. S. Yan, W. Zhu, B. Zhang, **X. Zhang**, J. Zhu, J. Shi, P. Wu, F. Wu, X. Li, Q. Zhang, and X. Liu. 2018. Pollen-mediated gene flow from transgenic cotton is constrained by physical isolation measures. *Sci. Rep.* 8.

Awards

2019	1st place of Student Competition at 2019 ESA Annual Meeting
2019 & 2020	Mayhew Graduate Research Award
2018	2nd place of Student Competition at 2018 ESA Joint Meeting
2018-2020	Ian and Helen Moore Marine and Aquatic Entomology Award by Entomology Department, UCR
2017-2018	UC Riverside Dean's Distinguished Fellowship Award
2015-2017	Auburn University Graduate Fellowship
2014	The first prize of the 9th "Challenge Cup" Business Plan Competition at CAU
2014	Jinlongyu Scholarship subsidized by Wilmar
2012, 2013, & 2014	CAU First prize scholarship (Rank: 3/99)
2012, 2013, & 2014	Scholarship of Excellent Student at CAU (Top 5% students)

Teaching Experience

Winter, 2019	Teaching assistant for Med & Vet Entomology (ENTM 126), UCR
Winter, 2018	Teaching assistant for Natural History of Insects (ENTM010), UCR

Professional organizations

2017-present	Member of Entomology Graduate Student Association (EGSA) at UCR
2015-present	Member of the Entomology Society of America (ESA)
2015-2017	Member of F. S. Arant Entomology Club (FSAEC)

Outreach

2018-2019	Departmental Displays, Exhibits, & Outreach Representative at UCR
2017-2018	Member of Fundraising & Events Committee in EGSA at UCR
2017-2018	211 hours for the Department of Entomology outreach project, UCR
Summer, 2018	Graduate outreach coordinator at the Department of Entomology
Apr 28, 2018	Medical and veterinary entomology booth at the 4 th Annual Insect Fair in Riverside, CA