

## Personal Information

Axel Gonzalez  
Ph.D. Student | The University of Tennessee  
2505 EJ Chapman Drive  
112 Plant Biotechnology Building  
Knoxville, TN 37996-4500  
Phone: (+1)984-242-8041  
Email: adgonzal24@gmail.com

## Education

- Ph.D. Student, Department of Plant Science (2021-present) at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN.
- Master of Science in Agriculture Sciences, concentration in insect ecology (2019-2021) at Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN.

Thesis: 'Impact of Cover Crop Usage on Tree Growth, Pest and Beneficial Arthropods in Woody Ornamental Field Production'

- BS in General Agriculture from Universidad Nacional de Agricultura, Catacamas, Olancho. 2008-2011.

Thesis: 'Evaluation of the effects on nutrition and health of the pollinator *Bombus impatiens*'. Research performed at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA, June to August 2011'

## Professional Experience

July 2017 -December 2018. Research Assistant. Department of Entomology, North Carolina State University. Research on darkling beetle, testing synthetic spider venom using *Beauveria bassiana* as a vector and worked with attractants for flies. Dr. Wes Watson's (PI)

September 2016-June 2017. Research Assistant. Department of Crop Science, Tobacco, North Carolina State University. Responsible for tobacco leaf processing and chemical analyzes. Dr. Ramsey Lewis (PI)

March-August 2016. Temporary Research Assistant. Department of Crop Science, Turf Grass, North Carolina State University. Responsible for greenhouses maintenance and plant propagation of Saint Augustine, Zoysia, and Tall Fescue. Dr. Susana Milla-Lewis (PI)

June-October 2015. Research Assistant, Department of Entomology, North Carolina State University. Responsible for field collections and data analysis from soybean plantations in 14 counties of North Carolina. Dr. Dominic Reisig (PI)

September 2014-February 201. Farm supervisor. Cargill Meats Central America, Santa Cruz de Yojoa, Honduras. Responsible for caring 112,000 birds for meat production as well as personnel management. Monitor temperature, food, water fountains, and ventilation of different production units.

January-May 2014. Research Assistant. Department of Crop Science, Forages, North Carolina State University. Responsible for setting up laboratory space and equipment for analysis of quality of forages, preparation of field areas to conduct research and extension programs, and revision of the publications of several extension documents that need to be uploaded to the web page of the program. Dr. Miguel Castillo (PI)

June-November 2013. Temporary Research Assistant, Department of Entomology, Insect Ecology Laboratory, North Carolina State University, Responsible for field collections and maintenance of kudzu bug (*Megacopta cribraria*) colonies using kudzu and soybean plants. Helped set up experiments to assess predator (*P. maculiventris*) efficacy against kudzu bugs. Prepared diet and maintained colonies of bumblebees (*Bombus impatiens*) for research purposes. Dr. Yasmin Cardoza (PI)

May 2012-May 2013. Coordinator North Carolina State University, Sustainable Agriculture and Extension Project (Proyecto de Mejoramiento y Sostenibilidad Agrícola (PROMESA)) Nueva Palestina, Honduras. Responsible for organizing extension workshops and field days for regional farmers and their families, organic agriculture, and sustainable agriculture. Also charged with organizing and managing international visitors to the PROMESA Project site.

May-July 2011 International Summer Research intern. Department of Entomology, North Carolina State University. Responsible for the evaluation of the effects on nutrition and health of the pollinator *Bombus impatiens*.

### **Oral & Poster Presentation**

Axel Gonzalez, Paul O'Neal, Jason Oliver, Karla Adesso. 2019, Oral. Effects of Cover Crops on Woody Ornamentals Controlling Flatheaded Appletree Borer. Tennessee Entomological Society Meeting, Nashville, TN.

Axel Gonzalez, Jason Oliver, Paul O'Neal, and Karla Adesso. 2019, Poster. Influence of Cover Crops in Arthropod Diversity in Woody Ornamental Production Systems. Entomology Society of America, St. Louis, MO.

Axel Gonzalez, Jason Oliver, Paul O'Neal, and Karla Adesso. 2020, Oral. Managing Flathead Borer in Woody Ornamental Production Systems. Southern Nursery Association, Baltimore, MD.

Axel Gonzalez, Paul O'Neal, and Karla Adesso. 2020, Oral. Development of a Cover Crop System for Management of Flatheaded Borers in Red Maple Production. Tennessee Academy of Science, East Tennessee University.

Axel Gonzalez, Jason Oliver, Nadeer Youssef, and Karla Adesso. 2021, Oral. Management of Flatheaded Appletree Borers Using Cover Crops in Woody Ornamental Production Systems. Virtual Southeastern Branch Meeting, Entomological Society of America.

Axel Gonzalez, Paul O'Neal, and Karla Adesso. 2021, Oral. Comparative performance of drill and broadcast winter cover crops in nursery production and their impact on arthropod communities. Annual Meeting Entomological Society of America. Denver, CO.

Axel Gonzalez and Karla Adesso. 2019, Extension Publication, Big-eyed Bugs.  
<http://www.tnstate.edu/extension/documents/Big-eyed%20Bugs.pdf>

Karla Adesso, Axel Gonzalez, Jason Oliver, and Anthony Witcher. 2021, Extension Publication, Flatheaded Borer Management in Nurseries with Cover Crop.

<https://www.tnstate.edu/extension/documents/Flatheaded%20Borer%20Management%20with%20Cover%20Crops%201.pdf>

### **Awards and Recognitions**

Ecology & Environmental Science Oral 3<sup>rd</sup> place award at the 130<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science on November 21, 2020.

2<sup>nd</sup> place in Master Student Oral Competition at the Southeastern Branch Meeting, Entomological Society of America. June 2021.

Awarded with The Alate Travel Award, Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting, Denver CO. November 2, 2021.

### **Training & Workshops**

Flatheaded Borer Workshop. Nursery Research Center, McMinnville, TN. July 2019.

SAS and SigmaPlot Workshop. SAS procedures for manipulating and analyzing data. Jason Oliver and Karla Adesso December 2019.