

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Doctorate of Philosophy graduate with six years of experience in quantitative and qualitative agricultural and social science research methods; Well-versed in the adoption of new agricultural technologies and change among farmers; Extension programming development and communications; Marketing and communication in persona development and customer experience; Able to manage, control, and complete online and in-person team projects using project management skills; Proficient in creative problem solving and contributing diverse perspectives on issues; Self-driven and quick to learn new skills; Organized verbal and written communication with colleagues and the public.

EDUCATION**Texas A&M University – Doctorate of Philosophy**

Degree: Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
December 2019, GPA: 4.0

College Station, TX
2017-2019

Texas A&M University – Masters of Science

Degree: Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
December 2016, GPA: 4.0

College Station, TX
2015-2016

Washington State University – Bachelors of Arts

Degree: Human Development
August 2013, GPA: 3.24

Pullman, WA
2009-2013

JOB EXPERIENCE**Sul Ross State University – Borderlands Research Institute**

Research Scientist & Communications Specialist, Employee, 40 hr/week

Alpine, TX
Jan 2020–Mar 2022

- Assist with stewardship services program, Respect Big Bend Coalition – to provide stakeholder engagement in potential energy development in the Trans-Pecos region of Texas.
- Guide and mentor one graduate student throughout their research project and coursework.
- Serve as undergraduate research program coordinator – instructing graduate students in becoming mentors and leaders to undergraduate students during their research projects.
- Conduct internal and external Qualtrics® surveys on staff and undergraduate students.
- Created three research report publications to disseminate research and projects to the public.
- Apply for and manage grant projects – four grants to date (two awarded, two denied).
- Manage and update the website with research projects and timely information.
- Create daily content and manage social media accounts (i.e., Facebook, Instagram, YouTube).

Texas A&M University – Agricultural, Leadership, Education, and Communications Department

Graduate Teaching & Research Assistant, Employee, 20+ hr/week

College Station, TX
Aug 2015–Dec 2019

- Research assistant for four department faculty; seven research projects – data collection, analysis, report writing
- Presented research projects and innovative ideas at 7 academic research conferences
- Teaching assistant for seven department faculty; 11 courses; 400+ students – grading, editing, lecturing, teaching.
- Assisted Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Organizational Development team in developing change model, onboarding, training, and continuing education for field extension agents.
- Created and managed the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Organizational Development website.
- Wrote and edited 30+ blog posts and 13 podcasts for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension employee professional development.
- Conducted four quantitative research projects survey development and three qualitative research projects
- Surveyed 275 Texas landowners, identified their motivations for and barriers to adopting best management practices.
- Surveyed 67 U.S. farmers and interviewed eight Pacific Northwest farmers, identified motivational values to adopting best management practices and their decision-making processes.
- Interviewed five undergraduate seniors who will return to their family farm/ranch, identified their management dynamics between family members and their future management goals.

- Surveyed 97 Texas agricultural education teachers, identified their confidence and instructional methods used when working with students on the autism spectrum.
- Surveyed 2,629 Texans, identified their preferred learning styles and their awareness of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service programs.

Lincoln County Conservation District

Davenport, WA

Communications Coordinator, Employee, 40 hr/week

Jan 2014–May 2015

- Secured \$260,000 Environmental Protection Agency grant funding to financially assist landowners with the implementation of no-till practices
- Obtained \$10,000 grant funding from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to plant trees and install benches along Audubon Society bird viewing trail
- Assisted USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service with approx. 70 conservation contracts
- Created and managed website, social media, and communications with the local community
- Managed natural resource funded grants simultaneously – physical labor and outreach education

Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association

Online/Location

No-till Agriculture Organization, Intern, 5–15 hr/week

Aug 2013–Jan 2015

- Assisted in developing “Farmed Smart” certification program to help brand northwest farmers
- Wrote one newsletter article regarding the process of adopting new agriculture innovations
- Coordinate and manage attendance of two conference registration events, 400+ attendees

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Dewald, S. S., (2021). How does your upbringing influence how you make decisions? Exploring the impact of socio-psychological development on farmers’ decision-making processes. Verbal presentation at the meeting of the 2021 Joint Annual Meetings and Conference of the Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS) and the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society (AFHVS) [Virtual conference].

Cummings, S., Dromgoole, D., Payne, M., Pope, P., **Dewald, S. S.**, Gottwald, K. (2019, July). Program change model: A process to promote change. [EOD-002]. College Station, TX: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Dewald, S. S., Murphrey, T. P., Leggette, H. R., Berthold, A. T., & Wagner, K. (2019). Landowner adoption of water quality best management practices: Motivations and barriers. *Journal of Extension*, 57(5). [5RIB4]. Retrieved from <https://joe.org/joe/2019october/rb4.php>

Dewald, S., Leggette, H. R., Murphrey, R. P., Berthold, A. T., & Wagner, K. (2018). Communicating to landowners in the Texas Little River watershed: A descriptive analysis of their communication preferences for receiving water-related information. *Journal of Agricultural Education*, 59(2), 343-369. doi: 10.5032/jae.2018.02343

CERTIFICATIONS

Advanced Research Methods Certificate – Texas A&M University 2017–2019
Academic validation in education and social sciences advanced research methods

Certificate in Extension Education – Texas A&M University 2017–2019
Academic validation in Extension education theory and practice

G.R.A.D. Aggies Professional Development Certificate – Basic & Intermediate 2017–2019
Enhance professional development and engagement

“Tidal” Leadership Training – Washington State University Online 2013
Identify workplace climate and adapt leadership accordingly, navigate challenging conversations and positively deal with conflict resolution

Culture Competency Training – Washington State University Office of Equity and Diversity 2013
Developed awareness of and increased work efficiency with individuals from diverse cultures

SKILLS

Advanced knowledge in Qualtrics, Microsoft Office, SPSS, STATA; Basic knowledge in RStudio, Adobe, Articulate, Canva