

## **Adam J. Ingraio**

2620 Hopkins Ave. • Lansing, MI 48912 • (951) 237-5311 • ingraoad@msu.edu

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### **Qualifications**

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- Dedication to duty and a personal desire to perform at the highest level has readily inspired the trust of both superiors and colleagues.
- Advanced knowledge in plant growth regulators, sustainable production horticulture, cut flower production, vermicomposting, agricultural entomology, and biological pest control.

### **Education**

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- Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI** **08/13 – Present**
- PhD student, Department of Entomology.
  - Research topic: Characterization of the tritrophic interactions of asparagus miner (*Ophiomyia simplex* Loew) (Diptera: Agromyzidae).
- California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA** **09/10 – 06/13**
- Bachelors of Science in Agriculture and Environmental Plant Science.
  - Concentration in Plant Protection Science.
  - Summa cum Laude - GPA 3.955.
- Crafton Hills Community College, Yucaipa, CA** **01/09 – 07/10**
- Transferred to Cal Poly, SLO 09/10 - GPA 4.0.
- Universal Technical Institute, Rancho Cucamonga, CA** **03/04 – 08/05**
- Graduated 08/05: Mercedes-Benz Elite Factory Technician Training - GPA 4.0.
  - Graduated 03/05: Automotive Technology Diploma - GPA 4.0.
- United States Army - Air Defense Artillery School** **03/03 – 10/03**
- Graduated 10/03: PAC 3 Patriot Missile Operator/Maintainer.
  - Graduated 08/03: PAC 2 Patriot Missile Operator/Maintainer.
- GRE Scores:** **08/29/2012**
- Verbal Reasoning: 156
  - Quantitative Reasoning: 151
  - Analytical Writing: 4.0

### **Professional Experience**

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- **California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA**  
**Research Technician (Plant Physiology/Plant Growth Regulators) – Dr. Lauren Garner** **11/10 – 08/13**
  - Lead technician of a multi-year investigation into the effects of an experimental form of abscisic acid (s-ABA) on drought stress avoidance in species of *Tagetes*, *Impatiens*, *Petunia*, *Antirrhinum*, *Citrus*, and *Prunus*.
- Research Assistant (Plant Nutrition/Vermicompost) – Dr. Robert Shortell** **10/12 – 06/13**
  - Assisted the principle investigator of a multi-university interdisciplinary research team evaluating the ecosystem services gained by implementation of comprehensive vermicompost nutrition programs in production agriculture.
- Research Technician (Entomology/Biological Controls) – Dr. David Headrick** **09/12 – 06/13**
  - Technician for Cal Poly agricultural entomologist researching basic biological and behavioral characteristics of *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri* to be utilized in revising current rearing and deployment methods for *Planococcus ficus* control in central California vineyards.

- Instructional Student Aid (Entomology)** **01/13 – 03/13**
- Taught lab section for Plant Protection Science 110 – People, Pests, and Plagues (entomology for non-science majors). Position included instruction in insect identification, collection, curation, biology, and ecology in addition to testing, evaluating, and assigning grades to students.
- Research Technician (Plant Physiology/Fungicides) – Dr. Jason Lewis** **06/12 – 09/12**
- Technician on Syngenta funded research investigating the physiological effects of experimental fungicides on *Poa annua* golf course greens.
- Student Advisor – Cal Poly Trial Garden** **01/12 – 07/12**
- Assistant for the Chair of the Horticulture and Crop Science Department in the recruitment, development, and creation of the Cal Poly Trial Garden, located at Cal Poly’s Horticulture Unit.
- Trial Manager – All American Selections** **10/10 – 06/12**
- Managed Cal Poly’s site for the All American Selections annual national trials with responsibilities including; propagation, transplanting, fertilization, pest management, data collection, and maintenance.
- Herbaceous Garden Manager – Leaning Pine Arboretum** **10/10 – 06/12**
- Managed and maintained all aspects of Cal Poly’s Herbaceous Garden including; plant material selection, propagation, weed management, pest management, irrigation management and repairs, volunteer management, regular maintenance, and worked closely with staff and faculty to maintain a diverse selection of plant materials for use in classroom activities.
- Student Assistant – Cal Poly Amphitheater Installation** **06/11 – 12/11**
- Member of the faculty and student team that installed the amphitheater complex at Cal Poly’s Horticulture Unit. Provided welding expertise in the installation of steel edging for the entire amphitheater project.
- Research Assistant (Plant Physiology/Seed Coatings) – Dr. Jason Lewis** **06/11 – 09/11**
- Research assistant for Scott’s Turf funded research investigating the effect of experimental seed coatings on the germination rates and emergence physiology of *Poa pratensis*, *Lolium multiflorum*, and *Festuca arundinaceae*.
- **GFI Motorcars, Lansing, MI**
- Independent Contractor (Auto Appraisal Group, Inc.)** **12/07 – Present**
- Provide meticulous inspection, research, and professional conditioning expertise to worldwide collector car clientele allowing clients to make informed purchasing decisions involving highly collectable automobiles. Perform expert witness testimony in state and federal legal matters involving vehicle valuation, conditioning, and fraudulent restoration cases.
- **Ball Tagawa Growers, Arroyo Grande, CA**
- Cut Flower Grower** **06/12 – 12/12**
- Intern** **03/12 – 06/12**
- Designed and conducted growing trials of unreleased cultivars of cut flowers to identify desirable production qualities within plants to be utilized in market decisions. Reported results of trials and made recommendations directly to the general manager. Developed cultural strategies for plant growth regulator application for cut flower production.
- **Inland Empire Resource Conservation District, Redlands, CA**
- Education Outreach Assistant** **04/09 – 10/09**
- Developed and facilitated education programs to K-12 students designed to bring awareness to environmental and conservation issues affecting the Santa Ana Watershed. Educational program topics included: energy conservation, storm water pollution, soil formation, wetland habitats, and native plants.
- **Fletcher Jones Motorcars, Newport Beach, CA**
- Mercedes-Benz Factory Service Technician** **08/05 – 02/07**
- Provided clientele with exceptional technical knowledge and ability in repairing, servicing, and maintaining vehicles resulting in increased confidence in Mercedes-Benz products.

➤ **United States Army, Fort Bliss, TX**

*Patriot Missile Fire Controller/Maintainer PAC2/PAC3 (14E-Q1)*

**Honorable Discharge – Service Connected Disabled Veteran**

**01/03 – 01/04**

- Engaged in radar directed identification procedures to ensure elimination of enemy aircraft and ballistic missiles in violation of battlefield safety corridors for ground troops. Performed exceptional technical diagnosis and repair of Patriot Missile radar systems under extreme stress conditions ensuring airspace superiority.

**Oral Presentations**

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- Drought Stress Tolerance Induced in Ornamental Plugs Through Foliar Application of Synthetic Abscisic Acid (s-ABA) by Adam Ingrao and Lauren Garner.
  - American Society for Horticultural Science annual conference, July 22-25, 2013.
  - Awarded first place in Undergraduate Student Oral Competition.

**Poster Presentations**

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- Quantifying Feeding Behaviors of Mealybug Destroyer (*Cryptolaemus montrouzieri* Mulsant) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) for Use in Control of Pest Mealybugs (Homoptera: Pseudococcidae) by Adam Ingrao and David Headrick.
  - Entomological Society of America, Pacific Branch meeting, April 7-10, 2013.
- Drought Stress Tolerance Induced in Ornamental Plugs Through Foliar Application of Synthetic Abscisic Acid (s-ABA) by Adam Ingrao and Lauren Garner.
  - Western Association of Schools and Colleges review of Cal Poly student research, April 2012.

**Published Manuscripts**

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- Marketability Extensions Gained with Exogenous Abscisic Acid Applications to Ornamental Plug Plants by Adam Ingrao and Lauren Garner.
  - To be submitted for publication in *HortScience*.

**Leadership Development**

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- Secretary, Horticulture Organization of Graduate Students, Michigan State University, 2013-2014.
- Facilitated tours of Cal Poly's Horticulture Unit to alumni, visitors, and prospective students on behalf of Cal Poly's Dept. of Horticulture and Crop Science, 2011-2013.
- Student representative for Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Dept. of Horticulture and Crop Science at the American Society for Horticultural Science conference, July 2012, Miami, FL.
- President of the Horticulture Club at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo for the academic year 2011-2012.
- Cal Poly, Dept. of Horticulture and Crop Science, student representative for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation review of student research, April 2012.
- Student volunteer organizer for Cal Poly, Horticulture and Crop Science Dept. Alumni Banquet, Oct. 2011.
- President of the Crafton Hills Community College Speech Club for the 2009-2010 academic year.
- Platoon leader, US Army, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon Alpha Battery 1-56 ADA, July 2003 – Jan. 2004.

**Awards**

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- Undergraduate Student Research Oral Competition, 1<sup>st</sup> place winner, given by the American Society for Horticultural Science at the 2013 annual meeting, Palm Desert, CA.
- Student Travel Grant recipient 2013, given by the American Society for Horticultural Science. (\$500)
- "Highest GPA for Graduating Senior", given by Horticulture and Crop Science Dept., Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.
- Plant Science Fellowship recipient 2013, given by Michigan State University. (~\$45,000)
- Environmental Science and Policy Program Fellowship award winner 2013, given by Michigan State University (accepted Plant Science Fellowship in lieu of ESPP Fellowship). (\$35,000)
- Bill and Mary Murdy Scholarship recipient 2013, given by PLANET Academic Excellence Foundation. (\$1000)

- Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo travel award recipient for attendance to the 2012 American Society of Horticultural Science conference, Miami, FL. (\$1000)
- Landscape Educational Advancement Foundation (California Landscape Contractors Association) recipient of 10 individual scholarships. (\$2000 total)
  - Ron Heaviland Memorial Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - Bill Hayes Memorial Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - Tom Yanase Pacific Coast Chapter Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - George Kunimoto Memorial Fund Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - Edron Schneider Memorial Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - Tom Takehara Memorial Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - Walt Young Memorial Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - Tom Matsuoka Memorial Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - Ben Slade Memorial Scholarship recipient 2012.
  - Elizabeth Lloyd-Davis Foundation Scholarship recipient 2012.
- Hort Tech Inc., Kerns Family Scholarship recipient 2012, given by Hort Tech Inc. (\$2500)
- Los Angeles Flower Market Scholarship recipient 2012, given by the Joseph Shinoda Memorial Scholarship Foundation. (\$2500)
- Bruce Briggs Memorial Scholarship recipient 2011, given by the International Plant Propagators Society. (Lodging and admission to Western Region annual conference)
- Sherman Gardens and Library Scholarship recipient 2011. (\$4500)
- Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo President's List; every year attended.
- Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo Dean's List; every quarter attended.
- Awarded "Outstanding New Student" 2010-2011, Cal Poly, Horticulture and Crop Science Dept.
- Awarded Crafton Hills Community College "Student of the Year" 2009-2010, Speech and Communications Dept.
- Mercedes-Benz Elite Scholarship recipient 2005, given by Mercedes-Benz North America. (6 month training at Mercedes-Benz North America Training Facility, Rancho Cucamonga, CA)

### **Professional Memberships**

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- Michigan Beekeepers Association (Since 2014)
- Center of Michigan Beekeepers (Since 2014)
- Entomological Society of America (Since 2012)
- Golden Key International Honour Society (Since 2012)
- American Society for Horticultural Science (Since 2011)
- Pi Alpha Xi – National Horticulture Honor Society (Since 2011)