



AGRO DIVISION

2014 NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD FINALISTS

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Dr. Natasha Andrade received her PhD in Environmental Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park under Dr. Alba Torrents in 2012. Most of her research was conducted at the US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service in Beltsville, Maryland, in collaboration with Drs. Laura McConnell and Cathleen Hapeman. Her research focused on the interface

of urban and agricultural areas, with emphasis on the bioavailability, fate, and transport of flame retardants and legacy pesticides. Natasha was a research associate at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County for one year under the supervision of Dr. Upal Ghosh working on the remediation of sediments contaminated with PCBs and mercury. Her work also involved the fundamentals of contaminant transfer between environmental compartments and sampling devices. Currently, she is a research associate at University of Maryland, College Park, working at a large wastewater treatment plant and the stabilization of biosolids with a new thermal hydrolysis process combined anaerobic digestion. Her newest project focuses on biosolids classification and also possible breakdown of organic pollutants.



Dr. Helene Hopfer received her PhD in Analytical Chemistry and Food Chemistry from Graz, University of Technology, Austria, under the supervision of Dr. Erich Leitner and Dr. Reinhold W. Lang. For her PhD work, she developed analytical methods for quantifying trace aroma compounds in food packaging materials. In 2010, Dr. Hopfer joined the University of California - Davis as a Postdoctoral Scholar with

Dr. Hildegard Heymann and Dr. Susan E. Ebeler in the fields of sensory science, flavor chemistry and organic and inorganic trace analysis. At UC Davis' Food Safety and Measurement Facility, she developed the first hyphenation of gas chromatography to an inductively-coupled plasma-tandem mass spectrometry (GC-ICP-MS/MS), a highly sensitive method to measure organophosphorus pesticide residues in foods. In May 2014, Dr. Hopfer joined HM.Clause as a Research Project Manager in Fruit Biochemistry.



Dr. Lacey Jenson is currently a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Entomology and Fralin Life Science Institute at Virginia Tech under the supervision of Dr. Troy Anderson. She is leading research studies that focus on the characterization of drug transport proteins and ion channel physiology of insects. Her current research interests also include ion channel pharmacology, insecticide

mode of action, cell biology and neurotoxicology. She recently earned a PhD in Entomology and Nematology (2013) from the University of Florida under the advisement of Dr. Jeffrey Bloomquist. Her dissertation research focused on the characterization of insecticide target-site protein expression in hormonally-induced insect cell lines. Dr. Jenson's previous education includes a Master of Science in Entomology in 2010 from Virginia Tech. Her thesis research was conducted on the development of a hormonally-induced cell assay for the high-throughput screening of existing and experimental insecticides. Lacey has also earned a Pre-Health Professional Bachelor of Science degree with a Minor in Microbiology from Iowa State University in 2007.

PRESENTATIONS

MONDAY, Yerba Buena Salon 10/11

3:20 – 277. NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD FINALIST

Evaluation of GC-ICP-QQQ as a new strategy for organophosphorus pesticide determination in foods.

H. Hopfer, J. Nelson, S. Wilbur, F. Silva, K. Shiota, P. Wylie

TUESDAY, Nob Hill B

9:40 – 351. NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD FINALIST

Utilizing thin-film solid-phase extraction to assess the effect of organic carbon amendments on the bioavailability of DDT and dieldrin to earthworms. **N. A. Andrade, T. Centofanti, L. L. McConnell, C. J. Hapeman, A. Torrents, et al.**

TUESDAY, Yerba Buena Salon 3/4

3:20 – 452. NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD FINALIST

Pharmacology of native ion channels expressed in *Anopheles gambiae* (Sua1B) insect cells for screening new insecticides. **L. J. Jenson, T. D. Anderson, J. R. Bloomquist**

The AGRO Division is grateful for the sustained support of the AGRO New Investigator Award



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