

PAUL H. SKILLIN

Fairfield, CA

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/skillinp/>

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy in Horticulture and Agronomy** Spring 2028 (projected)
emphasis in Crop Improvement/Plant Breeding
University of California, Davis, Davis, CA
- Master of Science in Horticulture** Spring 2023
Option of Plant Breeding and Genetics GPA: 3.95
Minor in Biological Data Science
Oregon State University (OSU), Corvallis, OR
- Bachelor of Science in Soil and Crop Sciences** Spring 2020
Concentration in Plant Biotechnology, Genetics, and Breeding GPA: 3.895
Colorado State University (CSU), Fort Collins, CO
- Associate of Science in Plant Science** Spring 2018
Reedley College, Reedley, CA GPA: 4.000

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Book Chapters

Skillin, P. 2018. Give Me Wasabi, Not Dyed Horseradish! p. 229-234. *In* Uchanski, M.E. and T.J. Mason (eds.) 2018. Topics in Vegetable Crop Management: Volume III- Fact Sheets. HORT 480A2 class project. Colorado State University (CSU), Fort Collins, CO, USA

Abstracts and Presentations at Professional Meetings

Skillin, P. (2023) A Brief History of Cannabis Cultivation, Use, and a Transcriptome Analysis of Gene Expression Related to CBGA:THCA Ratios in *Cannabis sativa* L. (Thesis Paper). Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, June 15. https://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/concern/graduate_thesis_or_dissertations/76537853g

Skillin, P. (2023) A Brief History of Cannabis Cultivation, Use, and a Transcriptome Analysis of Gene Expression Related to CBGA:THCA Ratios in *Cannabis sativa* L. (Thesis Seminar Presentation). Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, May 31.

Skillin, P., Garfinkel, A., Otten, M., Crawford, S., Vining, K. (2023). Using Transcriptome Analysis for the Identification of a Chromosomal Region Related to Increased CBGA Content in *Cannabis sativa*. (Seminar Presentation). International Plant & Animal Genome (PAG) Conference, San Diego, CA, Jan. 9-13.

Skillin, P., Garfinkel, A., Otten, M., Crawford, S., Vining, K. (2022). Identifying CBGA Genes in *Cannabis Sativa*. (Seminar Presentation). Cannabis Research Conference, Virtual, Aug. 9. <https://online.fliphtml5.com/wowbk/veby/#p=48>

Skillin, P., Garfinkel, A., Otten, M., Crawford, S., Vining, K. (2022). Identifying CBGA Genes in *Cannabis Sativa*. (Seminar Presentation). Plant Biology 2022 Conference, Portland, OR, Jul. 9-13.

Skillin, P. (2021). Strawberries Verticillium Wilt Resistance. (Seminar Presentation). OSU Horticulture Graduate Seminar Series, Corvallis, OR, May 24. <https://horticulture.oregonstate.edu/horticulture/2020-horticulture-seminar-series/2021-horticulture-seminar-series>

Skillin, P. (2020). In-Field Evaluation of Varietal and Hybrid Wheat Drought Tolerance. (Research Presentation). Corteva Internship Presentations, Evans, CO, Sep. 17.

Skillin, P. (2020). Analysis of the Development of High Amylose Wheat. (Practicum Presentation). Colorado State University Soil and Crop Sciences Practicum Presentations, Fort Collins, CO, May 6.

Skillin, P. (2019). Male Flower Alteration in Wheat. (In: The Internship Experience Poster Contest). ASA CSSA SSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, Nov. 10-14.

Skillin, P., and Trimarco, T. (2019). Creating a Community for Agronomists of the Future (In: SASES Club Poster Contest). ASA CSSA SSSA International Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, Nov. 10-14.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

Feb 2022 – Jun 2022

Experimental Design in Agriculture

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

Brainstorm and plan course objectives with professor on a regular basis, provide office hours for students who need help with course material. Come up with study guides and lectures for lessons, quizzes, and exams throughout the course.

Assist with grading coursework throughout the term.

Seminar Organizer

Mar 2021 – Jun 2021

Horticulture Graduate Seminar Series

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

Organized entire course, from aligning speakers to enforcing standards. Doing the introductions and facilitating discussions for each weekly speaker. Providing feedback with areas of improvement for each seminar.

Teaching Assistant

Aug 2019 – Dec 2019

Contemporary Agriculture Systems Group Leader

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

Facilitate discussions and provide mentorship to a class of approximately 50 students. Grade class assignments.

Collaborate with fellow group leaders and the instructor on a weekly basis to develop class content.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher

Since Sep 2023

UC Davis Strawberry Breeding Program

UC Davis, Davis, California

Working in Dr. Mitchell Feldmann's breeding lab, with a focus on differentiating between a genetic and physiological basis for post-harvest disease resistance, specifically focusing on *Colletotrichum* and *Neopestalotiopsis*.

Canola Breeding Associate

Jun 2023 – Sep 2023

InVigor Canola Breeding Program

BASF InVigor, Surrey, North Dakota

Working in field research trials for the industry's leading Canola breeding program. Responsible for field activities related to hybrid cultivar development and commercialization from seeding to harvest to include seed layout, land preparation, seeding, pest management, plot maintenance, data collection, threshing, harvesting, seed sampling, and supervision of temporary employees as necessary.

Graduate Research Assistant

Sep 2020 – May 2023

Cannabis Genetics Program

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

Working in Dr. Kelly Vining's lab in partnership with Oregon CBD (Independence, OR) to do transcriptome correlation analysis. This includes overseeing the growth of a sibling population, collection of floral bracts, RNA extraction and purification, chemotype analysis by higher performance liquid chromatography, the use of the Illumina NextSeq 2000 system for transcriptome sequencing, qPCR validation, and the use of various R and GNU Bash based programs.

Field Research Intern

May 2019 – Aug 2020

Wheat and Maize Breeding Programs

Corteva Agriscience, Evans, Colorado

Working in and leading a number of different projects throughout the summer, including an experiment to determine the effect of two plant growth hormones on hard red winter wheat flowering time. Provided general crop production-related support to all projects as needed. Assisted with stand counting, tissue sampling, data collection and entry, pollination, flowering notes, and other tasks needed to accomplish program objectives.

Wheat Breeding Practicum

Jan 2020 – May 2020

Wheat Breeding Program

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

Working with Dr. Scott Haley of the CSU Wheat Breeding Program, Emily Hudson-Arns of the wheat genotyping and field management team as well as with John Stromberger of the wheat quality analysis team. Duties include greenhouse management, tissue collection and sampling, data entry, statistical genetic analysis, wheat starch content analysis, and project presentation.

Junior Specialist

May 2018 – Aug 2018

University of California, Riverside

Kearney Agricultural Research Extension – Parlier, California

Responsible for experiment set-up and maintenance, irrigation, soil sampling, nematode extraction, pruning, general repair, soil inoculation, fertilizer calculations and applications, and problem solving. Assisted in the development of nematode resistant rootstocks for several tree species. Assisted in studies with the objective of measuring the effectiveness of nematicides on grape rootstock.

Insect Scout Assistant

Feb 2018 – Aug 2018

GAR Tootelian

Reedley, California

Responsible for insect identification at more than 200 locations over hundreds of acres of orchards. Responsible for placing insect traps at all locations as well as maintaining trap inventory. Created multiple accurate weekly count reports for export of domestic fruit crops.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Combat Engineer Team Leader

Feb 2014 – Jun 2018

Active Duty United States Army; California Army National Guard

Petaluma, California; Fort Lewis, Washington; Camp Hovey, Republic of Korea

- Graduated 1st out of over 100 in Basic Leadership Course
- Graduated 2nd in Explosive Ordnance Course, served as class leader
- Accountable for over \$3M worth of tactical equipment
- Selected as I Corps Honor Guard Noncommissioned Officer in Charge

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Academic Honors and Scholarships

- Knowles Agronomy Scholarship (2023)
- Graduated Colorado State University Cum Laude (2020)
- Colorado State University Dean's List (Spring 2020)
- CSU Agronomy Club 2019 Golden Pitchfork Award
- ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Golden Opportunity Scholarship (2019)
- Jack Fenwick Centennial Scholarship (2019)
- Colorado State University Ag Day Scholarship (2019)
- Colorado State University Dean's List (Fall 2018)
- Reedley College Veteran's Scholarship (2018)

Military Honors

- United States Army's Joint Meritorious Unit Award
- Army Commendation Medal: For outstanding performance at junior leadership course
- Sergeant Nathaniel Pryor Award for being the Distinguished Honor Graduate at United States Army Basic Leadership Course
- Army Certificate of Achievement, 2-time recipient: In recognition of leadership abilities and further development potential
- Commendation from Command Sergeant Major of the United States Army Engineer Regiment for performance during month-long training exercise
- United States Army's National Defense Service Medal
- United States Army's Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- Good Conduct Medal
- United States Army's Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon
- United States Army's Korean Defense Service Medal
- Army Service Ribbon
- United States Army's Overseas Service Ribbon
- United States Army's California State Service Ribbon: for support of the Fall 2017 North Bay Fires mission

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- President, Agronomy Club, Colorado State University 2019 – 2020
- Gave Club President's Trophy Presentation at ASA CSSA SSSA International Annual Meeting 2019
- Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, I Corps Command Honor Guard 2017
- Class Leader, Engineering Explosive Ordnance Clearance Agent Course 2016

PROFESSIONAL & STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS

- Pi Alpha Xi ASHS Honor Society, Alpha Rho Chapter 2022 – Present
- American Society for Horticultural Science 2020 – Present
- National Association of Plant Breeders 2019 – Present
- American Society of Agronomy 2019 – Present
- Soil Science Society of America 2019 – Present
- Crop Science Society of America 2019 – Present

- Tau Sigma National Academic Honor Society 2019 – Present
- SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society 2019 – Present
- California Association of Pest Control Advisors 2017 – Present
- Association of the United States Army 2016 – Present