

DEREK DEAN

EDUCATION

2019

- University of Arkansas**  
B.S. in Agricultural and Life Sciences  
Area of concentration: Horticulture

WORK EXPERIENCE

Present  
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2022

- Graduate Assistant**  
University of Arkansas  
Fayetteville, Arkansas

2022 –  
2021

- Research & Development Associate**  
80 Acres / Infinite Acres  
Springdale, Arkansas
  - Created research trials for multiple varieties of tomato and cucumber plants in vertical farming (CEA) systems.
  - Created Lighting recipes with Signify lights and corresponding software for CEA systems.
  - Organized in depth data collection protocols for tomato and cucumber plants.
  - Mentored and trained multiple new hires.
  - Personally engineered new devices and systems used for cultivation.

2021  
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2020

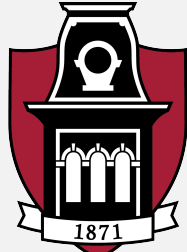
- Assistant Head Grower and IPM Manager**  
Mastronardi Produce (SUNSET)  
Brush, Colorado
  - Developed strategic plans and goals for overall management and oversight of an 18.5-acre greenhouse. Plan, organize, lead and control the daily crop caring tasks.
  - Developed IPM strategies for pest and disease control. Monitor pests and manage bio control and bee pollination.

2020  
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2019

- Research and Development Assistant**  
BOLD Cultivation  
Cotton Plant, Arkansas
  - Developed and assisted with services to the cannabis industry in all facets, whether it be for medicinal cannabis product development, or industrial applications.

2019  
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2018

- Assistant Greenhouse Manager**  
Nitron Industries  
Johnson, Arkansas
  - Managed and operated two Quonset style greenhouses, maintaining and caring for all plants, planed optimal growing schedules, provided supervision over greenhouse workers, made decisions on organic fertilizer and potting mediums, assisted with soil sample diagnostics.



UNIVERSITY OF  
ARKANSAS

CONTACT INFO

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870-219-8638  
For further inquiry, please contact me via email.

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Priva, Signify, grodan and CDMS Software
- Q2000 Sonicator
- Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Analysis
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite
- Knowledge of and ability to create research trials for CEA systems
- Ability to create and conduct diligent data collecting protocols
- Well versed with micro-tomato varieties
- Ability of training and teaching individuals or teams
- Ability to perform physically demanding work
- Floral Design
- First Aid, CPR & AED Certified (National Safety Council)
- Skill in the use and safe operations of grounds maintenance equipment such as tractors, skid-steer, riding mowers, forklift, trimmers, back hoes, power tools and hand tools.
- Knowledge of techniques and practices for propagating, planting and maintaining, trees, shrubs, bedding plants and ground covers.
- Knowledge, use and application of organic compounds including fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides and pesticides.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Plant Propagation HORT 5403**

University of Arkansas  
Spring Semester of 2023

**Woody Landscape Plants HORT 3103**

University of Arkansas  
Fall Semester of 2022

PRESENTATIONS

**Evaluating Spinach Germplasm Resistance Against Oomycete Exposure in a Vertical Farming System**

American Society for Horticultural Science  
February 5, 2023

**GWAS and Genomic Selection for Soybean Sucrose Content**

University of Arkansas HORT 6033 Research Project  
December 16, 2023

**Arkansas Researchers Screen Spinach for Pathogen Resistance in Vertical Hydroponics**

University of Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station Article

November 9, 2022

**CBD & The Endocannabinoid System**

University of Arkansas Student Presentation  
December 11, 2019

REFERENCES

- **Mr. Leo DeGroof, GM**  
SUNSET Produce  
Brush, Colorado 80723  
970-842-3000
- **Dr. Gary McDonald**  
University of Arkansas  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
479-575-8780
- **Dr. Wayne Mackay**  
University of Arkansas  
Department Chair  
479-575-7319
- **Mr. David Litvin** Infinite Acres  
Crop Specialist  
646-623-1680
- **Mr. Clint Morris** Owner | Nitron Industries  
[contact@nitron.com](mailto:contact@nitron.com)  
479-587-1777
- **Misty Drennon**  
BOLD Cultivation, CEO  
501-539-1589  
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- **Mrs. Shannon Mason**  
Colorado State University  
Floriculture  
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