

# Jim Teal

JTeal@wisc.edu

## EDUCATION

---

- Doctor of Philosophy** Expected 2025  
Agricultural and Applied Economics  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
Dissertation: *Agricultural Diversification: the What, the Why, and the How*  
Committee: Paul Mitchell, Guanming Shi, and Andrew Stevens (Chair)
- Master of Science** 2019  
Agricultural and Resource Economics  
University of California–Davis
- Bachelor of Arts** 2015  
Economics  
University of Tennessee–Knoxville

## EXPERIENCE

---

- University of Wisconsin–Madison**  
*Research Assistant* September 2020–Present  
*Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Stevens*
- Conduct research on food system resiliency and diversification
  - Visualize geospatial boundaries of farm preservation policies and parcel level distances from those boundaries requiring the use of both ArcGIS and R
  - Perform and present preparatory literature review of college student food insecurity
- Teaching Assistant* 2023–2024
- AAE 421: Economic Decision Analysis
  - Co-developed and implemented course lab project analyzing data from a hypothetical on-farm precision experiment
  - Fall 2023 overall performance rating from student evaluations 4.15/5
- United States Department of Agriculture**  
*Economic Research Service Pathways Intern* Summer 2022
- Cleaned and performed cursory network analysis on poultry label applications
  - Used label applications to determine processing plants' customer base
  - Provided descriptive statistical analysis on how processing plant salmonella levels differ across label claims and customer base
- Conservation Strategy Fund**  
*Research Associate/Data Analyst* November 2019–September 2020
- Contracted to assist in a critical assessment of a cornerstone fisheries policy at the California Fish and Game Commission
  - Cleaned, merged, and performed statistical analysis on fishery data
  - Interviewed California Fish and Game fishery specialists
- University of California–Davis**  
*Graduate Teaching Assistant and Reader* January 2019–June 2019
- Taught discussion sections, held office hours, and graded tests and problem sets for undergraduate Intermediate Microeconomics
  - Overall effectiveness rating from student evaluations 4.7/5

## Federal Reserve Board of Governors

Senior Research Assistant

Research Assistant

July 2017-July 2018

January 2016-June 2017

- Founding member of a research group focused on financial forecasting
- Performed research for the development of monetary policy tools
- Conducted data and statistical analyses which included collecting, preprocessing, modeling, and bootstrapping for economists aimed at policy decisions and academic publications
- Wrote, maintained, and documented code for forecasting, monitoring, and visualizing large datasets
- Prepared and presented briefings to domestic and international policy makers

## University of Tennessee

Research Assistant

May 2015-December 2015

Supervisor: Dr. Marianne H. Wanamaker

- Collected census data on father-son pairs in 1880 using multiple primary sources
- Provided assistance for [African American Intergenerational Economic Mobility since 1880](#), by William J. Collins and Marianne H. Wanamaker, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*

## Special Honors and Awards

---

Farm Foundation Agricultural Scholar

2023-2024

Mueller Fellowship Recipient

2024

## Publications

---

Stevens, A. W. & **J. Teal**. Predicting Firm Diversification in Agri-Food Value Chains. *Journal of Food Distribution Research*. Forthcoming.

**Teal, J.** & A. W. Stevens (2023). [Race and premium misrating in the U.S. Federal Crop Insurance Program](#). *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*.

Stevens, A. W. & **J. Teal** (2023). [Diversification and resilience of firms in the agrifood supply chain](#). *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

## Working Papers

---

**Teal, J.**, “Crop Diversification and Banking Resilience: An Entropy-Based Evaluation of Agricultural Lending Performance.”

## Invited Presentations

---

2024 - American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers Wisconsin Chapter

2023 - United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Services

## Conference Presentations

---

2024 - Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting (New Orleans, Louisiana), NC-1177: Agricultural and Rural Finance Markets in Transition Annual Meeting (St. Louis, Missouri)

2022 - NC-1177: Agricultural and Rural Finance Markets in Transition Annual Meeting (Detroit, Michigan)

## Service

---

UW AAE graduate committee representative

2024-2025

Abstract reviewer for AAEA

2024

President of the Taylor-Hibbard Club

September 2021-July 2023

- UW AAE graduate student organization

## Professional Affiliations

---

- Agricultural & Applied Economics Association

## Skills

---

- Proficient in R, LaTeX, Markdown, data visualization, and Linux-based operating systems
- Experience in MATLAB, SQL, ArcGIS, SAS, and STATA
- Regular use of the Tidyverse libraries within R including dplyr, purrr, and ggplot2