

About Me

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Who I am and where I came from

I am from Brazil, and I was born in a city called Nova Iguaçu, in Rio de Janeiro state. I always lived with my parents and my brothers. I have one twin brother and an older one. Since when I was kid, I really liked plants, I remember when I was around 8 years old, and I usually planted some randomly seeds in my grandma pots of ornamental plants - They got mad by the way.

In addition, to my passion for plants and biology, I liked also things related to architecture and design. During my high school, I took a technical course related to building. In my third year I had an opportunity to take an internship in a private company. I was 17 years old by that time. During my internship I noticed that architecture or civil engineering was not for me since it was a stressful moment of my life, and I was definitely not enjoying it. I learned a lot along though.

After finishing my high school, I pursue for college. As I mentioned I always loved biology and plants, then I decided to take Agriculture and Environmental engineering at Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro. In the beginning I enjoyed the course, although calculus classes were very stressful. In my second semester, I applied for an internship in the weed lab group from my university. By that time, I knew that they had some research involving phytoremediation of soil which I thought was very interesting, and it was the reason that I applied for the group. I had my own experiment related and it was a lot of learning. However, I noticed that I was more attracted for the weed science research than the environmental. As consequence, I took the national exam again to switch my major to Agronomy.

By the end of my undergraduate program, I had the opportunity to go to United States to take an internship in the weed science group of Colorado State University. It was an amazing experience. I learned a lot while I was helping the graduate students with their experiments. During my time in the weed lab, I had also the chance to possess my own experiment. It was very important to me once the data obtained from that I used in my final project to finish my Agronomy bachelors in Brazil. It was the first time that I used R with the goal to analyze the statistics from my experiment, and to create a graph of dose-response - I used drc and ggplot2 packages. The equation that had the best fit to my data was the 3 parameter log-logistic, as followed:

$$F(x) = D / (1 + (x/C)^{-B})$$

I spent one year and three months in Fort Collins and after that I returned to Brazil to finish my bachelor degree. When I graduated, I had the opportunity to go back to Fort Collins, to take my Master in the same weed lab group.

Here, it is a photo of myself in one of the place that I spend most of my time at work: at the greenhouse.



Outside of work I love to get together with friends, go to the gym, cooking, playing either card games or online games, to watch TV show and movies.

Research Interests

I'm interested in weed resistance and the mechanism of resistance related to it. I have been working in a weed resistance survey in which I have been applying different herbicides mode of action to check possible resistant candidates.