

Ahmad Z. Wahdat

CONTACT & CITIZENSHIP INFORMATION

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Citizenship: United States, Afghanistan

EDUCATION

Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana USA

PhD in Agricultural Economics

August 2021

Visiting Researcher at the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economics February-May, 2020

Fields: Behavioral & Experimental Economics, Food & Agricultural Economics, Household Finance

Specialization: Computational Science

Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts USA

M.S. Economics

May 2012

Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio USA

B.A. Economics (Honors)

May 2010

EXPERIENCE

Purdue University, Department of Agricultural Economics, West Lafayette, IN USA

Postdoctoral Research Associate

August, 2021 - Present

- Investigate vulnerabilities of the U.S. food supply chains
- Investigate consumers' shopping behavior and food demand with a focus on vulnerable groups
- Creating data dashboards to help producers and policy makers in their decisions

Instructor & Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant

August, 2017 - August, 2021

- Studied the impact of natural disasters on household food consumption behavior in the U.S.
- Implemented surveys to estimate farm producers' consumption and risk behavior after crop loss
- Served as lecturer for Macroeconomics and teaching assistant for MBA Quantitative Methods

The World Bank, The Development Impact Evaluation Unit (DECIE), Washington, D.C. USA

Consultant to the Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project (IAPP) April, 2016 - August, 2017

- Rigorously evaluated the impact of agriculture technology on crops' yield in Bangladesh
- Wrote Stata code to analyze IAPP's endline survey data using econometric models
- Coordinated with DECIE team to write IAPP's endline report for Bangladesh's Agriculture Ministry

Harvard Business School, Business, Government and the International Economy Unit, Boston, Massachusetts USA

Research Associate to Prof. Lakshmi Iyer

Sept., 2013 - March, 2016

- Managed the data analytics and statistical analysis of seven research projects in the Unit
- Developed custom GIS maps for socio-economic and political scenarios

MIT Sloan School of Management, Cambridge, Massachusetts USA

Research Assistant to Professors Paul Asquith & Parag Pathak

Sept., 2012 - August, 2013

- Statistical analysis on 6-years of corporate bond transaction data (NAIC) using Stata software
- Data visualization through Tables and Figures, and writing data appendix for NAIC data
- Data wrangling and coding of 20 datasets for a study on charter-schools in Colorado, USA

ARTICLES

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. 2022. "The Achilles Heel of the U.S. Food Industries: Exposure to Labor and Upstream Industries in the Supply Chain." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajae.12331>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z. 2022. "Economic Impact Payments and Household Food Insufficiency during COVID-19: The Case of Late Recipients." *Economics of Disasters and Climate Change*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41885-022-00115-9>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., Michael A. Gunderson, and Jayson L. Lusk. 2021. "Farm Producers' Household Consumption and Individual Risk Behavior after Natural Disasters." *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, 50(1), 127-149. <https://doi.org/10.1017/age.2021.2>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Michael A. Gunderson. 2021. "Principal Operators' Farm Risk Attitudes in Hot and Cold Climates." *Agricultural Finance Review*, Vol. and No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/AFR-06-2021-0087>

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. "Grocery Shortages and Consumer Shopping Behavior."

Polzin, Sam S., Lusk, Jayson L., and Ahmad Zia Wahdat. "Measuring Sustainable Consumer Food Purchasing and Behavior." *Revise and Resubmit at Appetite*

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., Yuansen Li, and Jayson L. Lusk. "Spatial Vulnerability of the U.S. Meatpacking Industry."

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Michael S. Delgado. "A Decade of U.S. Natural Disasters and Household Food-at-Home Consumption and Quality: A Quasi-Experimental Study."

Wahdat, Ahmad Z. "Income Shocks and Loss Aversion in Consumption Expenditures."

EXTENSION WORK

Subramaniam, Annapurni, Ahmad Z. Wahdat, and Jayson L. Lusk. 2022. "Economic Profile of Food Service Industries." Data Dashboard. Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University. Access: <https://ag.purdue.edu/cfdas/resource-library/economic-profile-of-food-service-industries/>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. 2021. "Food Industries' Vulnerable Input Purchases via Exposure to Upstream Industries and Labor Occupations." Data Dashboard. Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University. Access: <https://ag.purdue.edu/cfdas/resource-library/food-industries-vulnerable-input-purchases-via-exposure-to-upstream-industries-and-labor-occupations/>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. 2021. "Food and Beverage Industries' Covid-19 Vulnerability Index by U.S. State and Counties." Data Dashboard. Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University. Access: <https://ag.purdue.edu/cfdas/resource-library/food-and-beverage-industries-covid-19-vulnerability-index-by-u-s-state-and-counties/>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., and Jayson L. Lusk. 2021. “Food and Beverage Industries’ Value Added by U.S. State.” Data Dashboard. Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University. Access: <https://ag.purdue.edu/cfdas/resource-library/food-and-beverage-industries-value-added-by-u-s-state/>

Wahdat, Ahmad Z., Michael A. Gunderson, and Jayson L. Lusk. 2020. “Specialty Farm Households’ Consumption and Risk Behavior after Natural Disasters.” Special Edition: COVID-19 Impact on Agriculture, Purdue Agricultural Economics Report, Purdue University.

AWARDS	Yirgou Grant , Purdue University Merit based scholarship for students in Agriculture	September 2019
	Hicks Grant , Agricultural Economics, Purdue University Department grant to travel to Australia for research	March 2019
	PhD Tuition & Stipend , Agricultural Economics, Purdue University Tuition waiver and stipend for outstanding PhD students in agricultural economics	2017-2018
	Graduate Tuition Scholarship , Economics Department, Tufts University Half tuition waiver for outstanding incoming graduate students	2011-2012
	Fulbright Scholarship , Oberlin College United States’ most prestigious merit-based scholarship awarded to international students	2007 – 2010
	International Grant , Oberlin College Tuition assistance grants for top performing international students	2007 – 2010
CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS	W.E. & E.B. Stevenson Scholarship , Oberlin College Merit-based scholarships for outstanding international students	2007 – 2010
	183 rd European Association of Agricultural Economists Seminar (2022)	
	Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Conference (2019, 2020)	
	Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Conference (2020)	
	Workshop on Field Experiments, World Bank (2017)	
PRESENTATIONS & CHAIRLED SESSIONS	International Carroll Round Conference, Georgetown University (2011)	
	Presenter at 183 rd EAAE Seminar (2022) on Experimental and Behavioural Economics Research in Agri-Food and the Environment, Zagreb, Croatia	
	Presenter at Purdue Experimental Economics Brown Bag, 2022 — “Grocery Shortages and Consumer Shopping Behavior”	
	Session Chair & Organizer at AAEA, 2020 — “Specialty Crop Producers’ Managerial Decisions and Risk Preferences: Responding to Consumer Tastes and Natural Disasters”	
	Presenter at AAEA, 2020 — “Specialty Producers’ Household Consumption and Individual Risk Behavior after Natural Disasters”	
	Presenter at AARES, 2020 — “U.S. Agricultural CEOs’ Farm-Operation Risk Attitudes between Hot and Cold Temperature Climates”	

SKILLS

Computer Languages: Python, SQL, L^AT_EX
Statistical Programming: Stata, R, Matlab
Application Software: Microsoft Packages, MySQL, Tableau, ArcGIS, GAMS
Fluent Languages: Pashto, Dari (Farsi), Urdu, Hindi, English, Arabic (Intermediate)

REFERENCES

Prof. Jayson L. Lusk

Distinguished Professor and Department Head
Department of Agricultural Economics
Purdue University Krannert Building
403 W. State Street West Lafayette, IN 47907-2056
Email: jlusk@purdue.edu

Prof. Michael S. Delgado

Professor
Department of Agricultural Economics
Purdue University Krannert Building
403 W. State Street West Lafayette, IN 47907-2056
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Dr. Michael A. Gunderson

Head of Agriculture Research and Strategy
MetLife Investment Management
One MetLife Way
Whippany, New Jersey, 7981
Email: michael.gunderson@metlife.com

Prof. Collin B. Raymond

Associate Professor
Strategy and Business Economics, SC Johnson College of Business
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
Email: collinbraymond@gmail.com