

## Ahmad Z. Wahdat

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### 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>

Polzin, Sam S., Lusk, Jayson L., and Ahmad Zia Wahdat. 2023. "Measuring Sustainable Consumer Food Purchasing and Behavior." *Appetite*, 180, 106369. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2022.106369>

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. "Stockpiling, Grocery Shortages, and Consumer Shopping Behavior."

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-vul>

nerability-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 September 2019  
Merit based scholarship for students in Agriculture

**Hicks Grant**, Agricultural Economics, Purdue University March 2019  
Department grant to travel to Australia for research

**PhD Tuition & Stipend**, Agricultural Economics, Purdue University 2017-2018  
Tuition waiver and stipend for outstanding PhD students in agricultural economics

**Graduate Tuition Scholarship**, Economics Department, Tufts University 2011-2012  
Half tuition waiver for outstanding incoming graduate students

**Fulbright Scholarship**, Oberlin College 2007 – 2010  
United States' most prestigious merit-based scholarship awarded to international students

**International Grant**, Oberlin College 2007 – 2010  
Tuition assistance grants for top performing international students

**W.E. & E.B. Stevenson Scholarship**, Oberlin College 2007 – 2010  
Merit-based scholarships for outstanding international students

#### CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

183<sup>rd</sup> 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)  
International Carroll Round Conference, Georgetown University (2011)

#### PRESENTATIONS & CHAIRED SESSIONS

Presenter at 183<sup>rd</sup> 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<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X  
*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  
Email: delgado2@purdue.edu

### **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