

Devin A. Serfas

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EMPLOYMENT

2024-Present **Assistant Professor and RDAR Chair in Applied Agricultural Economics and Risk Management**
Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology,
University of Alberta

EDUCATION

2019-2024 **PhD. in Agricultural and Resource Economics**
Dissertation: Essays on Cropping Choice, Carbon Sequestration, and the Productivity of Saskatchewan Farms
Committee: Julian M. Alston, Richard S. Gray, Aaron D. Smith, and Pierre R. Mérel
University of California, Davis

2016-2018 **MSc. in Agricultural Economics**
Thesis: Strategic Investment and Entry Decisions for Soybean Breeding in western Canada
University of Saskatchewan

2012-2016 **BSc. in Agribusiness** (Honors and Great Distinction)
University of Saskatchewan

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Alston, J. M., Pardey, P. G. Serfas, D., and S. Wang. 2023. Slow Magic: Agricultural Versus Industrial R&D Lag Models. *Annual Review of Resource Economics*, 15:1.

Serfas, D., Gray, R., and P. Slade. 2018. Congestion and Distribution of Rents in Wheat Export Sector: A Canada–US Cross-Border Comparison. *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 66(2): 187-207.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Serfas, D. and R. Gray. 2019. An Evaluation of Value Creation Models for Pulses in western Canada. A report prepared for the Crop Development Center. Saskatoon, SK.

WORKING PAPERS

A New Field-Level Measure of the Stock of Soil Organic Carbon and Value of Carbon Sequestration

The Consequences of Soil Organic Carbon for Crop Yield, Farm Productivity, and Profit

Harvesting Benefits: Exploring the Effects of Second-Best Policies on Enhancing Soil Organic Carbon Stocks in Agriculture

The Costs of Pierce's Disease in the California Grape and Wine Industry: New, Up-to-Date Estimates (*with Julian Alston*)

Serfas, D., Alston, J.M. and P.G. Pardey. 2024. The Returns to Industrial R&D: A Comprehensive Meta-Assessment and Partial Critique of the Evidence. InSTePP Working Paper. St Paul, MN: International Science and Technology Practice and Policy Center, University of Minnesota.

CONFERENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

2023 University of Alberta – Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology in Edmonton, AB
University of Manitoba – Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics in Winnipeg, MB
NatuRE Policy Lab – Lab Seminar in Davis, CA
Oklahoma State University – Department of Agricultural Economics in Stillwater, OK
Western Agricultural Economics Association and Canadian Economics Association Annual Meeting and Conference in Whistler, BC

2022 NatuRE Policy Lab – Lab Seminar in Davis, CA
Workshop on Spatial Data Analysis – University of Saskatchewan

2018 3rd Soyagen Annual Meeting in Quebec City, QC
65th Annual North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association in San Antonio, TX
30th International Conference of Agricultural Economists in Vancouver, BC
25th Annual International Moose Jaw Conference – "Farming for ... Profit?" NAFTA & Trade Expansion

GRANTS

2022-2024 **Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission** – \$85,000
With Richard Gray and Julian Alston
2022-2023 **Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics** – \$30,000
With Julian Alston

AWARDS

2023 **Henry A. Jastro Graduate Research Scholarship Award** – \$3,000
2017 **Saskatchewan Pulse Crop Development Board Don Jaques Memorial Fellowship** – \$20,000
2016 **Undergraduate Book Prize Award**, Outstanding undergraduate student in agricultural economics or related field, Awarded by Canadian Agricultural Economics Society

WORKSHOPS

2023 **Speeding up computations with parallel R**
WestDRI online courses, Digital Research Alliance of Canada, Simon Fraser University, BC
2022 **Geo-Computation and -Statistics in R: Explicitly Accounting for Location in Agriculture**
GEMS Informatics, Minnesota Supercomputing Institute, University of Minnesota, MN

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research

2023-2024 **Graduate Student Researcher**, University of California, Davis
With Julian Alston
2022-2024 **Research Assistant**, University of Saskatchewan
With Richard Gray and Julian Alston
2021-2022 **Graduate Student Researcher**, University of California, Davis
With Julian Alston and Philip Pardey
2018-2019 **Research Officer**, University of Saskatchewan
2016 **Research Assistant**, University of Saskatchewan
Grain Transportation Research commissioned by Saskatchewan Wheat Development Commission.

Instructor

2023 **Associate Instructor**, University of California, Davis
ARE 100B – Intermediate Microeconomics (*Fall Quarter*)

Teaching Assistant

2020 **Teaching Assistant**, University of California, Davis
ARE 100B – Intermediate Microeconomics (*Spring and Fall Quarters*)
2017-2018 **Teaching Assistant**, University of Saskatchewan
AREC 346 – Principles of Sales (*Fall 2017*)
AREC 343 – Grain and Livestock Marketing (*Winter 2018*)

Other Employment

2012-2019 **Custom Farming** – custom seeding, spraying, and combining in Eston, SK.

REFERENCES

Julian Alston

Professor Emeritus
Agricultural and Resource
Economics
University of California, Davis
Davis, CA
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Richard Gray

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Aaron Smith

DeLoach Professor of Agricultural
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