

Nicole Mitidieri-Rivera

Department of Botany, UW-Madison
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Updated February 18, 2026
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<https://phyloverse.github.io/>

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin, Madison WI, U.S.
Ph.D. candidate in Botany.

Anticipated graduation in Spring 2026

MSc. in Botany

Thesis: *Evolutionary pathways to becoming a fig: a phylogenetic comparative approach.*

Advisor: Kenneth J. Sytsma.

Committee: Kenneth Cameron, Ken Keefover-Ring, Claudia Solís-Lemus, Elliot Gardner, Leandro Cardoso Pederneiras

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Edinburgh, SCOTLAND
Certificate in Botanical Illustration, with distinction

Universidad Nacional de la Amazonía Peruana Iquitos, PERU
B.S. in Biological Sciences

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Wisconsin, Madison
Graduate Teaching Assistant Spring 2022–2026
Graduate Research Assistant Fall 2021, 2025

SELECTED MANUSCRIPTS

1. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Wajer, J., Pederneiras, L. (2026). (3133-3134) Proposals to reject the names *Ficus serrata* and *F. maculata* (Moraceae). *Taxon* 75(1): e70112. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/tax.70112>
2. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Damián-Parizaca, A., Gardner, E., Pederneiras, L. (2026). A nomenclator of *F. sect. Americanae* (Moraceae). Part II: North and Central America, and the Antilles. *Phytotaxa* 739(2):145–182. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.739.2.3>
3. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Wajer, J., Pederneiras, L. (2025). (3127) Proposal to reject the name *Ficus calyculata* (Moraceae). *Taxon* 74(6): 1584–1585. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/tax.70084>
4. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Damián-Parizaca, A., Gardner, E., Plata-Castro, A., Zerega, N., Pederneiras, L. (2025). A nomenclator of *F. sect. Americanae* (Moraceae). Part I: South America. *Phytotaxa* 711(3): 215–262. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.711.3.1>
5. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Damián-Parizaca, A. (2025). *Ficus sytsmae* (Moraceae), a new species from South America and the reinstatement of *Ficus schiedeana*. *Phytotaxa* 708(2): 167–181. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.708.2.4>

6. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Gardner, E., Phipps, J., Zerega, N., Pederneiras, L., Damián-Parizaca, A., Sytsma, K. (2025). How to be a big genus? *Ficus* L. as an emerging model. *Annals of Botany* 00: 1–27. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/aob/mcaf101>
7. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Pederneiras, L.C., Parizaca, A.D., & Castillo, J.A. (2020). A new species and a new record of *Ficus* sect. *Pharmacosycea* (Moraceae) from Peru. *Systematic Botany* 45(1): 91–95. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1600/036364420X15801369352342>

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

8. Plata-Castro, A.D., Díaz-Rueda, D.M., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Mansano, V., Pederneiras, L. (2025). Typification of *Ficus* L. (Moraceae) names published by the Colombian botanist Armando Dugand, and a new record for Colombian Flora. *Phytotaxa* 734(2): 191–206. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.734.2.4>
9. Damián-Parizaca, A., Karremans, A.P., Barona-Colmenares, A.A., Iturralde, G., Pérez, A.J., de la Cruz, W., Jost, L., Garzón, H.X., Villalba-Vargas, D., Zenteno-Ruiz, F.S., Moya-Huanca, A.L., Castro, C., Pizango, J., Vilcatoma, E., Bentley, A.G., Jiménez, M.M., Baquero, L., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Cameron, K.M. (2025). The Genus *Vanilla* (Orchidaceae) in South America—Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru: An Annotated Checklist with a New Species. *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* 110, 335–362. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3417/2025992>
10. Damián-Parizaca, A., Karremans, A.P., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Cameron, K.M. (2025). Towards a monograph of membranaceous Vanillas: a nomenclatural revision of *Vanilla* subgen. *Vanilla* (Vanilloideae, Orchidaceae). *Plant Ecology & Evolution* 158(1), 111–121. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5091/plecevo.140667>
11. Damián-Parizaca, A., Monteros, M.F., Coayla-Rimachi, D., Walston, J., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.** (2025). A new species of *Pleurothallis* (Pleurothallidinae, Orchidaceae) from the historic sanctuary of Machupicchu, Perú. *PhytoKeys* 254, 29. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3897/phytokeys.254.142116>
12. Pederneiras, L. C., Zamengo, H. B., Zapata-C, D. A., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Romaniuc-Neto, S., & Mansano, V. D. F. (2023). *Ficus* subgen. *Spherosuke* sect. *Americanae* ser. *Dugandii* (Moraceae): A Curved Ostiolar Margin Group of Neotropical Fig Trees. *Systematic Botany* 48(2): 263–282. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1600/036364423X16847773873215>
13. Damián-Parizaca, A., & **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.** (2023). *Vanilla cameroniana* (Orchidaceae, Vanilloideae), a new species from French Guiana and new records from the Guiana Shield. *Phytotaxa* 609(3), 222–232. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.609.3.5>
14. Damián-Parizaca, A., Garzon, H.X., Baquero, L., Jimenez, M.M., Velez-Abarca, L., Iturralde, G.A., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Olortegui, S., Cameron, K.M. (2022). *Vanilla andina* (Vanilloideae, Orchidaceae), a new species of the membranaceous-leaved group from Peru and Ecuador. *Phytotaxa* 552 (1), 63–72. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.552.1.5>
15. Damián-Parizaca, A., Hagsater, E., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.** (2022). A new Peruvian species of *Epidendrum* (Laeliinae: Orchidaceae) belonging to the *Epidendrum incomptum* group. *Phytotaxa* 552(1), 099–106. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.552.1.9>
16. Damián-Parizaca, A., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Bonilla, M., Huayllani, J.T. (2021). A new species, lectotypification and new records in *Catasetum* (Orchidaceae: Catasetinae) from Peruvian Amazon. *Botany Letters* 168(2), 191–199. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/23818107.2020.1871404>

17. Damián-Parizaca, A., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Rimarachin, L. (2021). A new species of *Opilionanthe* (Pleurothallidinae, Orchidaceae) and new records in the *Lepanthes* clade for Perú. *Nordic Journal of Botany* 39(9), 1–9. DOI: 10.1111/njb.03307
18. Damián-Parizaca, A., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Edquen, J. (2021). Taxonomic and nomenclatural notes on *Fernandezia* (Orchidaceae, Oncidiinae) from Peru. *Ann. Bot. Fennici* 58, 245–251. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5735/085.058.0409>
19. Pederneiras, L., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Romaniuc-Neto, S., Manzano, V. (2021). Typification of *Ficus* sect. *Americanae* (Moraceae): Typification of *F. aurea* and *F. pertusa* complexes. *Phytotaxa* 514(2): 149–157. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.514.2.6>
20. Damián-Parizaca, A. & **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.** (2020). Living in the clouds: A new high-elevation species of *Vanilla* (Orchidaceae, Vanilloideae) from Perú. *Phytotaxa* 451(2), 154–160. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.451.2.5>
21. Damián-Parizaca, A., Salazar, G.A., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Altamirano, S. (2020). A new species and first record of the genus *Solenocentrum* (Orchidaceae: Cranichidinae) from Peru. *Lankesteriana* 20(3), 339–344. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15517/lank.v20i3.45012>
22. Damián-Parizaca, A., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Ormerod, P. (2020). *Crossoglossa puipuiensis* (Malaxideae: Orchidaceae), a new species, and new records of *Crossoglossa* from Peru. *Annales Botanici Fennici* 58(1-3), 37–43. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5735/085.058.0107>
23. Pederneiras, L., Monge, C., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, et al. (2020). Nomenclatural revision of *Ficus* sect. *Americanae* (Moraceae): Typification of *F. citrifolia* and allied species. *Phytotaxa* 474(2): 145–153. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.474.2.4>
24. Pederneiras, L., da Costa, A., Medeiros, H., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, et al. (2020). Species diversity of *Ficus* L. sect. *Americanae* (Moraceae) in Acre, Brazil. *Brittonia* 72: 215–231. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12228-020-09620-1>
25. Pederneiras, L., Monge, C., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, et al. (2019). Nomenclatural revision of *Ficus* sect. *Americanae* (Moraceae): Typification of *Ficus crocata* and allied species. *Phytotaxa* 414(5): 262–268. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.474.2.4>
26. Damián-Parizaca, A., **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Chiron, G. (2018). A taxonomic synopsis of *Acianthera* (Orchidaceae Pleurothallidinae) in Peru, including two new species. *Anales del Jardín Botánico de Madrid* 75(1), 5. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3989/ajbm.2449>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW / IN PREPARATION

27. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Wajer, J., Pederneiras, L.C. Proposal to reject the names *Ficus serrata* and *F. maculata* (Moraceae).
In press, *Taxon*
28. **Mitidieri-Rivera, N.**, Pederneiras, L., Gardner, E., Damián-Parizaca, A., Sytsma, K. A phylogenomic framework for Neotropical fig stranglers (Moraceae)
In preparation for submission to *Systematic Biology*

BOOKS

Peru's Ministry of Environment (2022) Reference level of forest emissions from gross deforestation in the Peruvian Amazon biome [PDF]. https://redd.unfccc.int/files/nref_peru_281122_final__2_.pdf

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI, USA

BOT 410: Evolution

Summer 2025

Teaching Assistant for Dr. Brandon Corder

BOT 130: General Botany

Spring 2025

Teaching Assistant for Drs. Kate McCulloh & Hiroshi Maeda

BOT 400: Plant Systematics

Fall 2023, 2024

Teaching Assistant for Dr. Kenneth Sytsma

BOT 130: General Botany

Fall-Spring 2023

Teaching Assistant for Drs. Edgard Spalding & David Baum (Fall), and Drs. Kate McCulloh & Hiroshi Maeda (Spring)

BOT 152: Introductory Biology

Spring 2022, 2026

Teaching Assistant for Drs. Simon Gilroy, David Baum, and Jonathan Pauli

International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, Lima, Peru

2017-2019

Environmental Systems and Societies, Biology

Lead instructor for the IB Program and Middle School

RESEARCH GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDING

1. J. Croxdale and H. Iltis Research Fellowship (**20,000**). Botany, UW-Madison 2025
2. Student Research Travel Funds (**1,500 USD**). WiSh Hub, UW-Madison 2025
3. LACIS Graduate Student Travel Grant (**1,200 USD**). LACIS, UW-Madison 2024
4. NYBG Visiting Scientist Travel Award (**1,400 USD**). NYBG Steere Herbarium 2024
5. Graduate Research Grant (**3,000 USD**). Society of Systematic Biologists 2023
6. P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship awardee 2022-2025
7. Graduate Research Awards (**10,000 USD**). Botany, UW-Madison 2022-2025
8. J. Croxdale Summer fellowship (**10,000 USD**). Botany, UW-Madison 2022-2023
9. Graduate Research Grant (**1,200 USD**). American Society of Plant Taxonomists 2022
10. Graduate Student Research Award (**1,500 USD**). Botanical Society of America 2022
11. Fulbright graduate fellowship (**20,000 USD**). Fulbright Perú 2021-2023
12. Internship at Instituto de Pesquisas Jardim Botânico do RJ (**2,100 USD**) 2019

CONFERENCE AND INFORMAL TALKS

B130 Honors series talk	Madison, WI, November 2025
Botany Informal Talks (BITS)	Madison, WI, October 2025
Botany conference	Palm Springs, CA, July 2025
XX International Botanical Congress	Madrid, Spain, July 2024
Botany conference	Anchorage, AK, July 2022
Botany conference	Virtual, July 2021
AGU Fall Meeting	Virtual, December 2020

MENTORING, SERVICE, AND OUTREACH

<i>Ad hoc</i> reviewer: Phytotaxa, Novon, Systematic Botany	Ongoing
Provided peer review of taxonomic and systematic manuscripts, ensuring methodological rigor and contributing to the advancement of botanical research standards.	
REACH Ambassador (UW-Madison)	2025-Present
Served as a representative for international scholars, fostering cross-cultural engagement and promoting inclusive academic and professional development across campus.	
Award Committee member	2025-Present
Participated in the evaluation and selection of awardees for the American Society of Plant Taxonomists and The Linnaean Society, contributing to the recognition of excellence in plant taxonomy and systematics research.	
International Student Services Advisory Board member (UW-Madison)	2025-2026
Advised on institutional policies and initiatives to enhance the academic experience and well-being of international students.	
Botanical Society of America Spotlight series	2025
Undergrad mentor (UW-Madison)	2025
Supervised and trained undergraduate students in herbarium-based research, fostering early-career development in plant biology.	
Search committee in the Department of Botany (UW-Madison)	2024
<i>WIS Herbarium Collection Manager</i>	
<i>Two faculty positions in the Botany Department</i>	
Certified Data Carpentries Instructor (R lessons)	2023-present
Taught foundational programming and data management skills to researchers in the life sciences, promoting open, reproducible, and inclusive computational practices.	
Committee member in the Department of Botany (UW-Madison)	2022-present
<i>DEI, awards, social, colloquium</i>	
Webinars and public outreach (organizer and/or *presenter)	
<i>Vanilla Perú</i> Public webinar on the taxonomy, ecology, and conservation of Vanilla species in Peru.	
<i>Mujeres Botánicas</i> Panel highlighting the contributions of women in botany and biodiversity research.	

Simposio de Orquídeas y Biodiversidad en Perú | Organized symposium exploring orchid systematics and conservation in tropical ecosystems.

Un abrazo que mata o da vida? El caso del género Ficus | *Public lecture on ecological interactions and evolutionary strategies in *Ficus*.

Botánica en tiempos del COVID | Virtual outreach event discussing challenges and adaptations in botanical research during the pandemic.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

FAO, Lima, Peru

Carbon specialist

July 2020-2021

- Designed and implemented methodologies for carbon stock assessment to support Peru's Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) under REDD+ framework guidelines.
- Led the technical evaluation and reporting of national forest carbon stocks, contributing to Peru's greenhouse gas inventory and climate change mitigation commitments.
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary teams to ensure data quality, methodological consistency, and compliance with international carbon accounting standards.

IIAP, Iquitos, Peru

Researcher and Herbarium manager

2016

- Conducted fieldwork and data analysis on carbon stocks in agroforestry systems across the Maynas and Requena provinces.
- Managed the Jenaro Herrera Research Center and coordinated ongoing research activities.
- Directed the Herrerense Herbarium in Jenaro Herrera, overseeing specimen collection, curation, and documentation.

CIFOR, Iquitos, Peru

Field Assistant

2015

- Collected and processed soil samples for carbon stock quantification in both natural forest and oil palm plantation systems in the Ucayali region of Peru.
- Assisted in establishing field plots and maintaining sampling protocols to ensure consistency and comparability across sites.

Research Assistant

2013-2015

- Conducted soil carbon stock monitoring in lowland peatlands dominated by *Mauritia flexuosa* (Arecaceae), contributing to long-term assessments of tropical peatland carbon dynamics.
- Collected and analyzed CO₂ and CH₄ gas samples from soils on a monthly basis to quantify greenhouse gas fluxes and inform ecosystem carbon balance models.
- Supported data management, field logistics, and calibration of equipment for tropical peatland carbon research projects.

INF, Iquitos, Peru

Brigade team

2013

- Led field teams in Amazonian lowland rainforests conducting vegetation surveys and plant collections for the National Forest Inventory.
- Collected and identified vascular plants, managed field logistics, and coordinated with local communities and herbaria.

University of Missouri–St. Louis & Missouri Botanical Garden, U.S.A.

Research Assistant

2012–2013

- Assessed aboveground biomass carbon storage and floristic composition in Peruvian Amazon peatlands.
- Established and inventoried 24 permanent 0.5-ha swamp forest plots in Loreto, Peru.

REFERENCES

Kenneth J. Sytsma

Department of Botany

University of Wisconsin-Madison

kjsytsma@wisc.edu

Relationship: Ph.D. advisor

Elliot M. Gardner

Department of Biology

Case Western Reserve University

elliot.gardner@case.edu

Relationship: Ph.D. committee member

Leandro Cardoso Pederneiras

Fluminense Federal University, Niterói

leandro.pederneiras@gmail.com

Relationship: Ph.D. committee member