

SARAH C. WHITNALL

Née Smith

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Agricultural Economics, Econometrics, Extreme Weather, Climate Change, Adaptation, Remote Sensing

EMPLOYMENT

Lecturer 2025–Present

University of Western Australia

Postdoctoral Scholar 2023–2025

University of California, Davis

Visiting Researcher 2024–2025

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)

Research Assistant 2019–2022

University of California, Davis

Research Assistant for Timothy K.M. Beatty and Julian M. Alston

Teaching

University of California, Davis

Instructor for ARE 139: Futures & Options Markets 2021

Teaching Assistant for ARE 172: Financial Management of the Firm 2019

Economist and Commodity Analyst 2016–2018

Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics 2018–2023

University of California, Davis

Bachelor of Resource Economics (Honours Class 1 and the University Medal) 2012–2015

University of Sydney

RESEARCH

Publications

Whitnall, S.C. & T.K.M. Beatty (2026). Climate Change and Field-level Crop Quality, Yield, and Revenue. *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, 13(1), 261-291.

Whitnall, S.C. & T.K.M. Beatty (2025). Postharvest Losses from Temperature during Transit: Evidence from a Million Truckloads. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. In press.

Whitnall, S. & J. Alston (2025). Climate, Weather, and Collective Reputation: Implications for California's Wine Prices and Quality. *Journal of Wine Economics*, 20, 122–167. Companion piece to *HDSR* publication.

Whitnall, S. & J. Alston (2025). Implications of Climate Change for Prices of Ultra-Premium Cabernet Sauvignon Wines from California. *Harvard Data Science Review*, 7(2). Companion piece to *JWE* publication.

Cuffey, J., K. Newby & S. Smith (2024). Social Inequity in Administrative Burdens: Evidence from SNAP. *Public Administration Review*, 84(2), 338-356.

Smith, S.C. & D. Ubilava (2017). The El Niño Southern Oscillation Cycle and Growth in the Developing World. *Global Environmental Change*, 45, 151-164.

Working Papers

Whitnall, S.C. & K. Ricketts. Climate Change and Labour Market Strain: Heat Stress Impacts on Farmworker Productivity and Farm Viability.

Whitnall, S.C. Margins of Response to Water Scarcity in Irrigated Agriculture.

Hill, A.E., S.C. Whitnall, E.C.A. Saunders & T.K.M. Beatty. Welfare Program Participation Among US Farmworkers: Comparing participation and its determinants in three national surveys.

Outreach Material

Ricketts, K. & S. Whitnall (2025). From Heat Stress to Economic Stress: Exploring the Future of Australian Agricultural Labour and Productivity. *Farm Policy Journal*, Australian Farm Institute, 22(1),80-95.

Smith, S. (2017). Wheat. *Agricultural Commodities: December quarter 2017* ABARES.

Smith, S. (2017). Wheat quality explained. *Agricultural Commodities: September quarter 2017* ABARES.

Smith, S. (2017). Wheat. *Agricultural Commodities: September quarter 2017* ABARES.

Smith, S. (2017). Wheat. *Agricultural Commodities: June quarter 2017* ABARES.

Smith, S. (2017). Wheat outlook. *Agricultural Commodities: March quarter 2017* ABARES.

Smith, S. & A. Cameron (2017). Horticulture outlook. *Agricultural Commodities: March quarter 2017* ABARES.

Brown, A., J. Fell, S. Smith & H. Valle (2016). Australian grains: Outlook for 2016–17 and industry productivity. *ABARES report prepared for the Grains Research and Development Corporation* ABARES.

Smith, S. (2016). Wheat. *Agricultural Commodities: December quarter 2016* ABARES.

Smith, S. (2016). The EU almond industry. *Agricultural Commodities: September quarter 2016* ABARES.

Smith, S. (2016). Wheat. *Agricultural Commodities: September quarter 2016* ABARES.

Smith, S. & J. Hogan (2016). Trade in fresh fruit and vegetables. *Agricultural Commodities: June quarter 2016* ABARES.

PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

- 2025 AARES Annual Meeting, Brisbane; CSIRO Ag2050 Economics Symposium, Canberra; AERE Reading Group, University of Sydney; Department of Home Affairs, Canberra; Institute of Agriculture, UWA; Monash Environmental Economics Workshop.
- 2024 AARES Annual Meeting, Canberra; AERE@OSWEET online seminar series; ANU Crawford School Arndt-Corden Department of Economics Seminar, Canberra; Harvard Vine to Mind Symposium, Cambridge, MA; AAEA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA; AARES ACT Branch, Canberra; University of Western Australia, Perth; CSIRO Sustainability Seminar, Canberra.
- 2023 AARES Annual Meeting, Christchurch; AAEA Annual Meeting, Washington DC; EAAE Congress, Rennes.
- 2022 AARES Annual Meeting (online); Agricultural Economics Workshop, UC Davis; AAEA Annual Meeting, Anaheim CA.
- 2021 Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics Student Conference (online); AAEA Annual Meeting, Austin TX.
- 2017 Seminar to Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries delegation, Canberra; ABARES Research Day, Canberra; Seminar to USDA delegation, Canberra; Guest Lecture “Commodity market analysis and forecasting”, University of Sydney.
- 2016 AARES Annual Meeting, Canberra; AARES NSW Branch, Sydney; AARES ACT Branch, Canberra; ABARES Research Day, Canberra.

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2023-2026 USDA - NIFA, AFRI \$650,000; role: Co-PI (with T.K.M Beatty)
- 2021-2022 Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics Grant \$30,000; role: Co-PI (with T.K.M. Beatty)
- 2020-2021 Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics Grant \$30,000; role: Co-PI (with J.M. Alston)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2025 Award for Best Academic Staff Publication, UWA DARE
- 2024 AAEA Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award Honorable Mention
- 2022–2023 Provost’s Dissertation Year Fellowship in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, UC Davis
- 2021 Henry A. Jastro Graduate Research Scholarship Award, UC Davis
- 2021 AARES-Crawford Fund Award
- 2021 Scott McNiven Community Service Award, UC Davis
- 2018 Non-Resident Tuition Fellowship, UC Davis
- 2016 AARES Undergraduate Award
- 2015 University Medal, University of Sydney
- 2015 Academic Merit Prize, University of Sydney
- 2015 Bruce Davidson Prize in Resource Economics, University of Sydney
- 2015 John Neil Downing Memorial Prize in Practical Agriculture, University of Sydney
- 2014 Alan Randall Prize in Resource Economics, University of Sydney
- 2013 The Belmore Scholarship, University of Sydney
- 2013 Warren F Musgrave Prize in Resource Economics, University of Sydney
- 2012 John Arthur Cran Prize in Agriculture, University of Sydney
- 2012–2015 Faculty of Agriculture Undergraduate Merit Scholarship, University of Sydney

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2025–Present	Committee Member. AARES WA Branch.
2025–Present	Committee Member. UWA School of Agriculture and Environment’s Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee.
2024–2025	Committee Member. AARES ACT Branch.
2021–2023	Graduate Student Liaison. AAEA.
2018–2022	Committee Member. UC Davis ARE Social Committee.
2019–2022	Co-Organizer. UC Davis Econometrics Reading Group.
2020–2021	Co-President. UC Davis ARE Graduate Student Association.
2020	Co-Organiser. UC Davis ARE Anti-Racism in Economics Reading Group.
2018–2019	Committee Member. AARES ACT Branch.