

# Gitanshu Munjal

Chiang Mai, Thailand

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## Education

Sep 2014  
to  
Dec 2017

### University of California, Davis

*Ph.D. student, GGHA, Crop Improvement, GPA 3.92*

- Henry A. Jastro Research Award
- Horticulture & Agronomy Graduate Fellowship (Spring 2015)
- Horticulture & Agronomy Graduate Fellowship (Fall 2014)

Sep 2011  
to  
June 2013

### University of California, Davis

*B.S.(with Honors) Plant Sciences , Plant Breeding & Genetics, GPA 3.6*

- Departmental Citation for outstanding undergraduate performance
- Ming Hop Lee Memorial Scholarship
- Inducted to Phi Sigma biological sciences honors society
- Dean's Honor Roll list every quarter at Oregon State (5 quarters)
- Drucilla Shepard Smith Scholastic Award (Oregon State)
- Loren. J Smith Agricultural Honors Scholarship (Oregon State)
- Ursula Bolt Knaus Scholarship, Dec 2010 (Oregon State)

## Work History

Feb 2023  
to  
Present

### Prebreeder - Corn

*East-West Seed*

*Chiang Mai, Thailand*

- Currently responsible for the development of new traits and technologies/tools in a structured way for the benefit of sweet/waxy corn breeders at EWS together with internal and external collaborators.

Jan 2018  
to  
Dec 2022

### Research Lead

*Rama Krishna Hybrid Seeds*

*Delhi, India*

I was single handedly responsible for the development of:

- Early stage breeding programs for various OP crops for Asian export markets.
- MET approaches for assessing new products from international collaborators in India.
- Semi-automated workflows for farm management/monitoring and office accounting
- Internal SOPs around all aspects of the logistics of seed export/import
- Migration of the company to Google workspace
- An R shiny dashboard as a market research tool with Indian import and export data for any given HSN
- Initial efforts in assessing the potential for currency exchange modelling together with EEFC banking to improve returns for the company.

Jan 2015  
to  
Dec 2017

### Graduate Student Researcher

*Brummer Lab*

*Department of Plant Sciences-University of California, Davis*

- Project aimed at dissecting the genetic control of autumn dormancy in autotetraploid alfalfa *Medicago sativa* using selection mapping and genome-wide association mapping approaches using low-coverage sequencing ([Dissertation Link](#)).

- Sep 2013  
to  
March 2014
- Breeding Assistant-Silage Corn**  
*Forage Genetics International, Davis, CA ([foragegenetics.com](http://foragegenetics.com))*
- Responsibilities included: Database building and management, programming to improve efficiency of inventory and phenotyping operations, operating field equipment, experimental design, data collection and analysis, agronomic field-work, and leading field crews.
- Dec 2012  
to  
August 2013
- Undergraduate Intern/Research Assistant**  
*Ross-Ibarra Lab ([rilab.org](http://rilab.org))*  
*Department of Plant Sciences - University of California, Davis*
- Project aimed at genome wide association analysis of maize phenotypes in highland and lowland environments. Responsibilities included: data collection (phenotyping), statistical analysis using R, and maintaining plants in the growth chamber.
- Dec 2012  
to  
April 2013
- Undergraduate Intern/Research Assistant**  
*Tomato Genetic Resources Center ([tgrc.ucdavis.edu](http://tgrc.ucdavis.edu))*  
*University of California, Davis*
- Project aimed at analyzing crossing relationships in tomato species. Responsibilities included: pollination, floral harvest, and scoring pollen tubes in styles using fluorescence microscopy.
- July 2012  
to  
August 2012
- Research Trainee**  
*Chia Tai Seeds Company, Thailand ([chiataigroup.com](http://chiataigroup.com))*
- Trained in cultivation, management, and breeding techniques for various vegetable crops at three research stations in different parts of Thailand.
- Jan 2012  
to  
Jun 2012
- Undergraduate Intern/Research Assistant**  
*Zakharov Lab ([website](#))*  
*Department of Plant Sciences - University of California, Davis*
- Project aimed at understanding the molecular pathways underlying aroma compound synthesis in cantaloupes. Responsibilities included: Tissue culture, DNA & RNA isolation, maintaining plants in the greenhouse, pollinating flowers, and harvesting fruit.
- Jan 2011  
to  
Mar 2011
- Laboratory Assistant**  
*Department of Horticulture - Oregon State University*
- Ornamental plant breeding program (Thuja species). Responsibilities included: Flow cytometry, laboratory and greenhouse management.
- Apr 2010  
to  
Jun 2010
- Greenhouse Technician**  
*Department of Horticulture - Oregon State University*
- Hazelnut breeding program. Responsibilities included: transplanting operations, and setting up drip irrigation systems.

## Involvements

- Web Master, Graduate Group in Horticulture & Agronomy ([website](#))
- Outreach Coordinator, Graduate Group in Horticulture & Agronomy
- Organizing Committee Member, 2016 UCD Plant Breeding Symposium
- Organizing Committee Chair, 2017 UCD Plant Science Symposium
- Web Design, UCD Plant Science Symposium ([plantsciencesymposium.ucdavis.edu](http://plantsciencesymposium.ucdavis.edu))