

Caitlin McCann

442 Austin St., Downers Grove, IL 60515

<https://redheadcaitlin.quarto.pub/caitlinmccann/>

caitlinmccann01@gmail.com

630-432-3077

Professional Summary

Hardworking and committed graduate student eager to learn more about the fields of agriculture and horticulture. Accustomed to working alone and in groups, in busy and calm environments, and reliable under all circumstances. Motivated to accumulate new experiences and grow professionally.

Skills

- R Coding Language
- Laboratory Procedure
- Linux Computing Cluster
- Command Line
- Microsoft Office
- Smartsheet & Lucidchart
- Hand Pollination
- Tissue Sampling

Experience

NA R&D Seed Production Intern

Jun 2022 – Aug 2022

Syngenta

Downers Grove, Illinois

- Updated and improved training processes for North American locations.
- Trained site stewardship coordinators on use of Smartsheet training processes.
- Consolidated data and streamlined data management procedures.
- Visualized data using Smartsheet and Lucidchart.

Undergraduate Researcher

Aug 2020 - Dec 2021

University of Alabama - McKain Lab

Tuscaloosa, Alabama

- Collected samples with a team of graduate and undergraduate students in the field.
- Isolated DNA using CTAB protocol and constructed DNA libraries.
- Presented posters at URCA and Botany Conference 2021.

Undergraduate Researcher

May 2021 - May 2023

University of Alabama - Benstead Lab

Tuscaloosa, Alabama

- Organized and isolated samples of macroinvertebrates using a microscope.
- Helped gather data in a study on the environmental impact of stream warming.
- Trained a fellow undergraduate on use of tools and methods of data collection.

Seeds Operations Intern

May 2023 – Jul 2023

Syngenta

Slater, Iowa

- Led teams of seasonal workers in tissue sample collection and hand pollination.
- Prepared yield experiments on soybean crops.
- Organized and participated in trial field planting.
- Took performance notes on corn and soybean trial fields.

Education

Bachelor of Science: Biology

August 2019 - May 2023

The University of Alabama

Tuscaloosa, Alabama

- GPA 3.98, Graduated *Summa Cum Laude* and with Honors
- Minor in Liberal Arts (Blount Undergraduate Initiative)
- Studied abroad at Maynooth University, Ireland in Spring 2022

Awards

- Presidential Scholarship

Leadership

- Vice President of the Outdoor Adventures Club (2021)

Master of Science: Plant Breeding, Genetics, and Genomics

Aug 2023 - current

The University of Georgia

Athens, Georgia

- Research assistantship in the lab of Dr. Dario Chavez
- Developing KASP markers for the *Prunus persica* (peach) genome
- Conducting genetic analysis of worldwide *Prunus* populations

Awards

- UGA Graduate School Master's Fellow Award
- John Ingle Innovation in Plant Breeding Award 2024
- 2nd Place in the MS Student Presentation Competition at the Southeast Professional Fruit Worker's Conference 2024
- 2nd Place in the Norman F. Childers MS Student Paper Competition at the Southern Region ASHS Annual Conference 2025

Leadership

- Student Leadership Committee, UGA Griffin, 2024
- Boerma Plant Breeding for Excellence Planning Committee, 2025

Publications

- **Founding Cultivars and Genetic Contributions of the Moderate Chill Peach UGA-UF-USDA Breeding Program** – currently pending review – C. McCann, P. Conner, J.X. Chaparro, T.G. Beckman, Jeekin Lau, D.J. Chavez
- **Fine-scale variation of nuclear and chloroplast genomes in a Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*) population.** – published abstract - Busby, Andrew, Caitlin E. McCann, William A. Laycock, Kayln N. Pate, Nate Hofford, M'Kayla Motley, and Michael McKain. "Fine-scale Variation of Nuclear and Chloroplast Genomes in a Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*) Population." Poster presented at the Botany 2021 Conference, Virtual, July 21, 2021. Accessed December 17, 2024.
- **Target genotyping using Capture-Seq technology to characterize the population structure and phylogenetic relationships of peaches from Australia and other parts of the world.** – published abstract – Caitlin McCann, J.X. Chaparro, Bruce Topp, Dougal M. Russell, Jeekin Lau, Jordan Knapp-Wilson, Rachel Itle, and D.J. Chavez – poster presented at 2025 SR ASHS Conference