

Curriculum Vita

17. Garza, B., V. Ancona, J. Enciso, H. L. Perdomo, M. Kunta and C. Simpson. 2020. Quantifying citrus tree health using true color UAVs. *Remote Sensing* 12 (1): 170.
18. Chaudhary S., D. A. Laughlin, M. Setamou, J. V. da Graça, M. Kunta, O. J. Alabi, K. Crosby, K. Ong, and V. Ancona. 2020. Disease incidence and severity of *Phytophthora* foot rot in the LRGV. *Plant Disease* <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-07-19-1493-RE>.
19. Kunta, M., L. Guzman, A.C. Garcia, H.S. del Rio, J. C. Melgar, E. S. Louzada. 2019. Evaluation of physiological parameters in citrus plants transformed with cyclic nucleotide gated ion channel (CNGC) gene. *Acta Horticulturae* 1230: 107115.
20. Salas, B., H.E. Conway, M. Kunta, D. Vacek, and C. Vitek. 2018. Pathogenicity of *Zygosaccharomyces bailii* and Other Yeast species to Mexican fruit fly (Diptera: Tephritidae) and mass rearing implications. *J. Econ. Entomol.* 11(5):20812088.
21. Park, J.W., E. S. Louzada, W. E. Braswell, P. A. Stansly, J. V. da Graça, G. McCollum, J. E. Rascoe and M. Kunta. 2018. A new diagnostic real time PCR method for Huanglongbing detection in citrus root tissue. *J. General Plant Pathol.* 84(5):357.
22. Park, J.W., M. Kunta, G. McCollum, M. Gonzalez, and J. V. da Graça. 2018. Development of a sensitive real time PCR detection method for Citrus tatterleaf virus. *J. Plant Pathol.* 100(1):67.
23. Nishikawa F., E. Louzada, J. C. Melgar, M. Kunta and M. Setamou. 2017. Effects of planting bed and plastic mesh as ground cover on flowering of citrus trees. *Bulletin of the NARO Institute of Fruit Tree and Tea Science* 1:48.
24. Kunta, M., J.W. Park, P. Vedasharan, J. V. da Graça and M. D. Terry. 2018. First report of *Colletotrichum queenslandicum* on Persian lime causing leaf anthracnose in the USA. *Plant Disease* 102:677.
25. Kunta, M., Z. Zheng, F. Wu, J. Graça, J.W. Park, X. Deng, and J. Chen. 2017. A draft whole genome sequence of *Candida lusitana* from Texas, USA. *Genome Announcements* 5: e00117.0
26. da Graça, J. V., M. Kunta, W. Park, M. Gonzalez, G. Santillana, V. Mavrodieva, D. W. Bartels, B. Salas, M. N. Duffel, and J. Dale. 2017. Occurrence of a citrus canker strain with limited host specificity in south Texas. *Plant Health Progress* 18:206.
27. Setamou, M., O. J. Alabi, M. Kunta, J. Jifon, and J. V. da Graça. 2016. Enhanced acquisition rates

Curriculum Vita

Nonrefereed Articles (4)

1. McCollum, G., M. Kunta and E. Braswell. 2018. Improving early detection of HLB affected trees. *Citrograph* 9(1): 50-54.
2. Salas B., M. Kunta, C. Vitek, and A. Jasso. 2013. Efficacy of chemicals on the survival of *australis* on citrus fruits with symptoms of sweet orange SOS. CPHST Mission laboratory annual report, p20-21.
3. Braswell E., M. Kunta, and E. Louzada. 2013. Evaluating citrus root tissue as a target for early and efficient detection of HLB disease, CPHST Mission laboratory annual report, p3-4
4. Technical Working Group (TWG) Report Sweet Orange *Elsinöe australis*. 2010. https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/citrus/downloads/sweet_orange/sos_report.pdf

Curriculum Vita

17. Alabi, O. J., M. Setamou, M. Kunta, J. Dale, & J. V. da Graca. 2018. Prevalence of *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* in citrus and Asian citrus psyllid in Texas over a 10-year period (2007-2016). *Phytopathology* suppl. 108:1.62.
18. Avila, C., J-W. Park & M. Kunta. 2018. Evaluation of real-time PCR primer sets for the diagnosis of Huanglongbing (HLB) in citrus root tissue. Abstract in FASEB vol 32 Apr. Suppl
19. Park, J.W., J. Brockington, C. Medelez, M. Gonzalez, E. S. Louzada da Graca & M. Kunta. 2018. Citrus fibrous roots: an alternative source material for Huanglongbing (HLB) diagnosis pre-symptomatic stage.

Curriculum Vita

.XQWD 0 - 9 GD *UDoD 0 6pWDPRX DQG 0 6NDULD 3
presence of HLB in Texas Orange jasmine plants. XVIII Conference of the International Organization of Citrus Virologists meeting, Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil, November 7
14. Kunta, M., J. V. da Graça, M. Sétamou, and M. Skaria. 2011. A perspective on the activities of Texas HLB diagnostic laboratory. 2011 International Conference HLB, Orlando, Florida, January 10.
15. J. D. Tanner, M. Kunta, J. V. da Graça, M. Skaria and S. D. Nelson. 2011. Evidence of a low rate of seed transmission of Citrus tatter leaf virus in citrus American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, August 6-10.
16. Kunta, M., W. Li, J. V. da Graça, and L. Levy. 2011. Search for Candidatus Liberibacter spp. in citrus and orange jasmine plants and Asian citrus psyllids in Texas by field surveys and multi-loci PCR assays. American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, August 6-10.
17. Kunta, M., M. Palm, J. Rascoe, P.B. de Sa Snow, J. V. da Graça, B. Salas, A. Satpute, M. Setamou, and M. Skaria. 2011. First report of sweet orange scab in USA. American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, August 6-10.
18. Kunta, M and Mani Skaria. 2006. Molecular characteri32<0048>31f/ q 8(t)-4()-(a)-33(n)22()-10(P)-8(h)221

Curriculum Vita

48. Louzada, E. S., O. Vazquez, S. J. Schneider, and M. Kunta. 2015. Optimization of the detection of YLDEOH μ & DQGLGDWXV /LEHULEDFWHU DVLDWLFXV¶ EDFWHULXP Annual Meeting, August-5, Pasadena, CA.
49. Vazquez, O., E. Louzada, G. Yanev, M. Devanaboina, and M. Kunta. 2015. Global distribution of μ & DQGLGDWXV /LEHULEDFWHU DVLDWLFXV¶ LQ URRWV RI VRXU RUDQJH and in leaves of Rio Red grapefruit. American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, August 1 Pasadena, CA.

Curriculum Vita

80. da Graca, J.V., M. Setamou, M. Kunta, and M. Keremane. Case study of Huanglongbing development of a single grapefruit tree in Texas, a decade of incubation. Joint ~~ICV~~ IRCHLB VI, March 10-15, 2019, Riverside, CA.

Curriculum Vita

6. PI at TAMUK, \$8,589,573 (Kunta \$503,020), Development, evaluation, and delivery of citrus HLB management approaches by targeting its nature as a pathogen triggered immune disease, USDA NIFA CAP, 2022.
7. PI, \$89,500. Investigation into the active micro sources and other factors contributing to the canker infections of new growth in citrus trees. Texas Department of Agriculture, 2022.
8. PI at TAMUK, \$4,670,000 (Kunta \$333,778). Evaluation and validation of novel, huanglongbing resistant/tolerant citrus hybrid scion cultivars, USDA NIFA ECDRE CAP, 2020
9. PI at TAMUK, \$4,759,531 (Kunta \$352,338). Providing practical solutions for HLB treatment and prevention, USDA NIFA ECDRE CAP, 2020
10. PI, \$200,521, Microbial control of *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*, USDA PPDMDPP PPA Sec. 7721, 2020.
11. PI, \$22,500, Validating HLB detection in ACP using RNR assay. USDA APHIS cooperative agreement, 2020.
12. PI, \$57,467, Studies on the effectiveness of peraclean®5, electrolyzed water, and bleach on the viability of *Elsinoë australis*, the causal agent of sweet orange scab (SOS) disease. USDA APHIS cooperative agreement, 2020.
13. Co-PI, \$433,860 (Kunta-No budget) Enhancing productivity of HLB endemic orchards via improved soil health, HLB-MAC, 2020.
14. Co-PI, \$120,000, (Kunta

Curriculum Vita

31. Co-PI, \$254,618 (Kunta \$23,039), CRB, Testing of early HLB detection protocols using Texas samples, 2015.
 32. Cooperator, \$95,510, CRB, Development of consumer friendly transgenic citrus plants with potential broad spectrum resistance to HLB, Citrus Canker, *Phytophthora*, and other exotic diseases, 2013.
 33. Co-PI, \$62,000, USDA APHIS PPQ, Evaluating citrus root tissue as a target for early HLB detection, 2013.
 34. Co-PI, \$5,000, TCPB, Evaluation of conventional and quantitative PCR for detection of HLB in composite plant DNA samples, 2013.
 35. Co-PI, \$9,500, TAMUK, Visualization of cytosolic Ca²⁺ distribution in plant cells of transgenic and non-transgenic plants, 2012.
 36. Co-PI, \$32,500 (Kunta \$15,000) USDA APHIS, Studies on sweet orange scab (SOS) caused by *Elsinoe australis*, 2012
 37. Co-PI, \$5,000, (TCPB), Avoiding false positives in HLB PCR tests and studies on infection induced protein changes, 2009.
- Proposals Submitted but Pending Decision (Total = \$12,167,350, Kunta \$1,472,631)
1. Co PI, \$53,261, TDA USDA AMS SCMP, Analyzing

Curriculum Vita

36. Co-PI, \$400,000, Systematic study to evaluate reliable sink tissue and seasonality for consistent HLB MAC, 2019
37. Co-PI, \$1,028,000, Providing Research Experiential Learning Opportunities in Animal and Biological Sciences (PREPLABS), 2019.
38. Co-PI, \$34,000 Characterization of citrus heat tolerant genotypes using tissue culture, high throughput phenotyping and throughput phenotyping genotyping TAMU, 2021.
39. PI, \$110,328 Development of a simple, rapid, sensitive, and effective tool for on-site field screening of citrus canker disease, 2022.
40. Co PI, \$2,100,000 Legume mixture intercropping in citrus orchard: An approach to increase production efficiency, improve soil health, and overall agricultural sustainability, 2023
41. Co PI, Kunta \$616,631 USDA, CRISPR enabled microbes as a novel precision biocontrol method for HLB, 2023
42. Co PI, \$627,882 Characterizing genotypic and phenotypic differences between strains of *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* and their impacts on vector competence, 2023
43. Co PI, \$740,816, USDA AFRI, Genetic and phenotypic characterization of strains of *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*, the causal agent of Citrus Greening in the 2023
44. Co PI, \$846,540, USDA AFRI, Soil amendments for improved soil microbiome and health and sustainable citrus production in Texas, 2023.
45. Co-PI, (Kunta \$1,249,507), USDA NIFA ECDRE CAD Design and delivery of effective, safe, and affordable citrus-derived products for HLB treatment and protection, 2024
46. Co-PI, (Kunta \$148,970), USDA NIFA ECDRE CAR Unraveling nuclear and organelle genome crosstalk: A gateway to enhancing disease resistance in citrus species, 2024

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND ACTIVITIES

Reviewer & Editorial activities

1. Reviewer for over 31 scientific journals
2. Managing Editor, *Subtropical Agriculture and Environments*
3. Editor, *BIOTECH* (Springer)
4. Senior Editor, *Journal of Plant Disease Sciences*
5. Guest editor for special issue *Disease Control Strategies in Citrus Plants in Jordan* (MDPI)

Elected Professional Society Positions

1. President, 2018-19, *Subtropical Agriculture and Environments Society*
2. Treasurer, 2020 Present, *Subtropical Agriculture and Environments Society*

Invited Talks/Scientific committee assignment

1. Invited talk Transcriptome and microbiome studies to manage citrus HLB in Texas. 2022. International Citrus Congress, Mersin, Turkey.
2. Invited talk-

Curriculum Vita

- W K H G H W C H E M U S R / Q E R H U L E D F W H U D V L D W L F X V ¶ L Q F L W U X V
20. Sonia Munoz (2021)
Project title: Assessment of post-freeze Arthropod population in Texas citrus.
 21. Steven M. Ramirez (2021)
Project title: Mature citrus grove HLB as edge effect on adjacent young citrus grove
 22. Teresa Salazar (Course only 2021)
 23. Jaffer Gadiwar (2021) (Chair)