

Eleni D. Pliakoni

Department of Horticulture and Natural Resources
Kansas State University
K-State Olathe
22201 W. Innovation Dr.
Olathe, KS 66061

Phone: (913) 307-7370
FAX: (913) 541-1488
Email: epliakoni@ksu.edu

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Sciences (Dec 2010)
University of Thessaly, School of Agricultural Sciences, Greece
Master of Science in Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (Nov 2003)
University of Crete, Department of Biology, Greece
Bachelor in Agriculture / Joint Master's of Science Degree (Mar 2001)
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of Agriculture, Department of Horticulture and Viticulture, Greece

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor (Jul 2018 – present)
Urban Food Production and Postharvest Handling
Dept of Horticulture and natural Resources, Kansas State University, Olathe, KS.
Assistant Professor (Mar 2013 – Jun 2018)
Urban Food Production and Postharvest Handling
Dept of Horticulture and natural Resources, Kansas State University, Olathe, KS.
Post Doctoral Research Associate (Jan 2011-Dec 2013)
Dept of Horticultural Sciences, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Research Assistant (Jul 2006-Aug 2010)
School of Agricultural Sciences, University of Thessaly, Greece

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Kansas State University
HORT 794 Urban Food Systems (Spring 2016, 2018)
HORT 795 Urban Agriculture Study Tour (Fall 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)
HORT 725 Postharvest Handlings and Physiology of Horticultural crops (Spring 2015, 2017)
HORT 791 Urban Agriculture (Fall 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)
HORT 790 Sustainable Agriculture (Fall 2013, 2015)
HORT 793/FDSCI 630 Farm to Fork Produce Safety (Fall 2014, Fall 2016, 2018)
HORT 796 Professional Development in Urban Food Systems (Fall&Spring 2016, 2017, 2018)

University of Thessaly, School of Agricultural Sciences, Greece (2006 to 2010)
Teaching assistant for Pomology (I and II) and Postharvest Technology of Horticultural crops courses

Technological Educational Institute of Larissa, Greece

Teaching assistant for:

Subtropical Pomology (Citrus - Olive) course (2009 to 2010)
Systematic Botany course (2005 to 2010)

Technological Educational Institute of Crete (2004 to 2005)

Teaching assistant for Irrigation Management and Plant Morphology courses

University of Crete, Department of Biology, Greece (2002 to 2003)

Teaching assistant for Plant Physiology and Plant Structure courses

GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORING

- **Graduate Student Advising:** Primary advisor for
 - 10 M.S. Students – Amanda Lindahl (graduated), Kelly Gude (graduated), Mike Ryan, started Fall 2014, Jennifer Dennis started Fall 2015, Riley Sunday started Fall 2016, Joseph Rundquist started Fall 2017, Tricia Jenkis Summer 2018, Kristin Taylor started spring 2018, Ricky Wyatt started spring 2018 and Sara Hazen started spring 2018.
 - 2 PhD student – Kostantinos Baztiakas started Spring 2016, Kelly Gude Spring 2017
- **Committee member:** Lani Meyer M.S., started Fall 2013(graduated), Jecob Jenott M.S started Fall 2014 (graduated), David Loewen M.S., started Fall 2014 (graduated), Zachary Hoppenstedt M.S., started Fall 2015 (graduated), Myung Jin Lee Ph.D started Fall 2016, Joshua Maher started Fall 2017.
- **Post Doc:** Mentoring a post doctoral associate- Helena Chiebao Pondes from 2014until November 2018

GRANTS AWARDED

2018 Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Mini Grants-PI (\$3,000)
Support the study tour to St. Louis, Missouri as part of the HORT 794 class

2017 USDA US Agency for International Development –PI (\$500,000)
Capacity Building on Produce Postharvest Management in Tanzania

2017 Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Mini Grants-PI (\$5,000)
Support the study tour to Hawaii as part of the HORT 794 class

2017 Kansas Department of Agriculture-co-PI (\$70,086)
Effective Packing Practices to Control Postharvest Diseases in Small Fruit Crops

2017 Greek Diaspora Fellowship Program from the Niarchos Foundation-PI (\$7,600)

2016 USDA Higher Education - Institution Challenge Grants Program-co-PI
Linking Inter-disciplinary Students to a Complex Food System (\$135,000)

2016 USDA Specialty Crops Research Initiative Coordinated Ag Project (CAP)- co-PI
(\$3,276,666)

Growing new roots: Grafting to enhance resiliency in U.S. vegetable industries,

2016 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning mini-grant, College of Agriculture, Kansas State University –PI (\$7,225)
Examining Student Learning Outcomes from an Urban Food Systems Study tour class - Phase II

2016 Academic Excellence Awards Program-PI (\$6,000)
Support the study tour to Seattle, Washington as part of the HORT 794 class

2016 US food and Drug Administration-co-PI (16,000)

Strategy for Successful Implementation of FSMA in the North Central Region through Adoption of a Systems approach and stakeholder engagement framework

2015 Global Food Systems Innovation Program, Kansas State University-PI (\$39,169)

An international symposium on urban food systems: Changing the way we think about global food security

2015 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning mini-grant, College of Agriculture, Kansas State University –PI (\$ 5,200)

Examining student learning outcomes from an Urban Food Systems study tour in the U.S

2015 North Central Region-Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education –co-PI (\$195,968)

Strengthening organic sweet potato propagation systems in the North Central Region

2015 Center for Engagement and Community Development, Kansas State University-co-PI (\$9,300)

Engaging Kansas produce growers in strengthening on-farm produce safety and quality education and outreach

2015 USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)-co-PI (\$499,326)

Improving nutritive and health-promoting qualities of vegetables by manipulating light characteristics in high tunnel production

2014 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning mini-grant, College of Agriculture, Kansas State University –PI (\$ 3,000)

Evaluating the effectiveness of co-teaching and videoconferencing for a new course “Farm to Fork Produce Safety

2014 USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)-PI (\$981,244)

Postharvest physical treatments to reduce losses of organic and other locally-grown produce while improving quality and extending shelf life

2014 Kansas Department of Agriculture-PI (\$67,815)

Improving safety, quality and shelf-life of locally grown vegetables in Kansas

2014 Kansas Department of Agriculture- co-PI (\$30,387)

Development of an instrument to document economic impact of fruit and vegetable growers in Kansas

2013 Kansas State University-PI (\$1,200)

Proposal for the ADVANCE Distinguished Lecture Series

2013 Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City - Collaborator (\$188,700)

Feasibility study for the Greater Kansas City Food Hub

In-Kind Gifts/Donations

Waters Corporation (\$81,162)

Donation of Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatography (UPLC) unit

TetraClean Systems LLC” (\$2,400)

Donation of 2 ozone generator

LIST OF RECENT PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Z.N. Hoppenstedt, J.J. Griffin, **E.D. Pliakoni** and Cary L. Rivard 201X. Yield, Quality, and Performance of Organic Sweetpotato Slips Grown in High Tunnel Compared to Open Field. HortTechnology (accepted)
- K. Gude, C.L. Rivard, S.E. Gragg, K. Oxley, P. Xanthopoulos and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2018. Day-neutral Strawberries for High Tunnel Production in the Central United States. HortTechnology 28(2):154-165.

- L.J. Meyer, M.M. Kennelly, **E.D. Pliakoni**, and C.L. Rivard. 2017. Leaf removal reduces scion adventitious root formation and plant growth of grafted tomato. *Sientia Horticulturae* 214 :147-157.
- G.D. Nanos, **E.D. Pliakoni**, E.Kalorizou, and A. Vatsanidou, 2013. Leaf gas exchange and leaf characteristics differences between two almond cultivars. *Fruit Growing Research Journal XXXIX*: 84-89
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, G.D. Nanos and M.I. Gil, 2010. Two Seasonal Study of the Influence of Regulated Deficit Irrigation and Reflective Mulch on Individual and Total Phenolic Compounds of Nectarines at Harvest and during Storage. *J Agric Food Chem*: 58 (22) 11783–11789
- D.S. Skopelitis, N.V. Paranychianakis, K.A. Paschalidis, **E.D. Pliakonis**, I.D. Delis, D.I. Yakoumakis, A Kouvarakis, E. Stephanou, A.K. Papadakis, K.A. Roubelakis-Angelakis 2006. Abiotic stress generates ROS that signal expression of anionic glutamate dehydrogenases to form glutamate for proline synthesis in tobacco and grapevine. *Plant Cell* 18:2767-2781

LIST OF RECENT PEER-REVIEWED PROCEEDING ARTICLES

- Helena Pontes Chiebao, Jacob R. Jenott, Daniel A. Unruh, Sara E. Gragg Cary L. Rivard, **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2018. Postharvest treatments to improve quality, safety and storage life, at non-optimum temperatures of locally grown vegetables in Kansas. *Acta Hort* 1194: 1353-1360.
- K. Gude, C.L. Rivard, H.P. Chiebao, M. Swaney-Stueve and **E.D. Pliakoni**, 2018. Pre-harvest Effects on Postharvest Quality of Spring-Planted, Day-Neutral Strawberries in High Tunnels. *Acta Hort* 1194: 91-98.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, C.A. Shoemaker, R.R. Janke and C.L. Rivard. 2016. Building a new graduate program: A model for collaboration between institutions and industry. *Acta Hort* 1126:187-192.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, D.J. Huber, S.A. Sargent, and J.K. Brecht. 2016. Using chlorophyll fluorescence as an indicator of brown stain (CO₂ injury) in Romaine lettuce. *Acta Hort* 1120:151-156.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, D.J. Huber, S.A. Sargent, and J.K. Brecht. 2015. Physical and biochemical changes in broccoli that may assist in decision-making related to international marine transport in air or CA/MA. *Acta Hort* 1071: 951-957.
- A.I. Deltsidis, **E.D. Pliakoni**, E.A. Baldwin, J. Bai, A. Plotto and J.K. Brecht. 2015. Tomato flavor changes at chilling and non-chilling temperatures as influenced by controlled atmospheres. *Acta Hort* 1071: 703-709.
- **E.D. Pliakoni** and G.D. Nanos, 2012. Effects of reflective mulch on leaf physiology and fruit quality and storability in olives cv. Konservolea. *Acta Hort*.949:385-390
- S. Pastopoulos, **E.D. Pliakoni** and G.D. Nanos. 2012. Kaolin sprays and individual fruit bagging effects on quince fruit quality. S06.299. *Acta Hort*. 940:381-385
- A.I. Deltsidis, **E.D. Pliakoni** and J.K. Brecht. 2011. Establishing CO₂ tolerance of pink tomatoes in MAP at elevated handling temperatures. *Proc. Fla. State Hort. Soc.* 124:241–245
- **E.D. Pliakoni** and G.D. Nanos, 2011. Influence of deficit irrigation and reflective mulch on ‘Konservolea’ olive leaf physiology during the growing period. *Acta Hort*. 888:199-204
- D. Abusafieh, **E.D. Pliakoni** and G.D. Nanos, 2011. Ozone and salinity combined stress effects on olive leaf antioxidant enzyme activities. *Acta Hort*. 888:127-134

- R. Rinaldi, G.D. Nanos, **E.D. Pliakoni** M.L. Amodio and G. Colelli, 2011. Effect of Deficit Irrigation on Fruit and Oil Quality of ‘Konservolea’ Olives. S08.267. *Acta Hort.* 924: 445-451
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, D. Daenas and G.D. Nanos. 2010. Total phenol content and chilling injury of normally- or deficit-irrigated fresh green olives during storage. *Acta Hort.* 877: 209-214
- A.I. Deltsidis, **E.D. Pliakoni** and G.D. Nanos. 2010. Quality changes of temperate-zone grown Ruby Star grapefruit during storage at chilling and non-chilling temperatures. *Acta Hort.* 877: 941-945
- **E.D. Pliakoni** and G.D. Nanos. 2010 Deficit irrigation and reflective mulch effects on peach and nectarine fruit quality and storage ability. *Acta Hort.* 877: 215-222.
- G.D. Nanos, **E.D. Pliakoni**, D. Daenas, M.L. Amodio, and G. Colelli. 2008. Effect of deficit irrigation on olive and olive oil quality during fruit storage. *Option Mediterraneennes A84*: 77- 83.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, H. Kalorizou and G.D. Nanos. 2008. Peach leaf physiology and irrigation water and light availability. *Option Mediterraneennes A84*: 61- 67.

LIST OF RECENT NO REFEREED PUBLICATION

- **E.D. Pliakoni**, Cary L. Rivard and Candice A. Shoemaker. 2018. Home Country Urban Food Systems Study Tour-Enhancing Student’s Experiential Learning. Urban Food Systems Symposium (UFSS) 2018 in Minneapolis, MN, August 8-11, 2018
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, K. Batziakas, M. Swaney-Stueve, C.L. Rivard, M. Talavera .2018. Meeting Consumer Preferences With Locally Grown Spinach in a High Tunnel System. Urban Food Systems Symposium (UFSS) 2018 in Minneapolis, MN, August 8-11, 2018
- K. Gude, C.L. Rivard, H.P. Chiebao, M. Swaney-Stueve and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2018. Consumer Preference of Locally-produced Strawberries Grown in High Tunnels. Urban Food Systems Symposium (UFSS) 2018 in Minneapolis, MN, August 8-11, 2018
- K. Batziakas, H. Pontes Chiebao, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2018. Reducing Pre-Harvest and Postharvest Losses in Spinach through the Implementation of High Tunnels. XXX International Horticultural Congress 8/12-17, 2018 Istanbul, Turkey
- K. Batziakas, M. Swaney-Stueve, M. Talavera , C.L. Rivard , **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2018. Descriptive analysis and consumer acceptability of locally grown and commercially grown spinach. XXX International Horticultural Congress 8/12-17, 2018 Istanbul, Turkey
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, C.L. Rivard and C.A. Shoemaker. 2018. Enhancing Student’s Experiential Learning with a Home Country Urban Food Systems Study Tour. American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting in Washington DC, July 31-August 3, 2018
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, K. Batziakas, M Swaney-Stueve, C. Rivard and M. Talavera. 2018. Consumer Acceptability of Locally and Commercially Grown Spinach. American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting in Washington DC, July 31-August 3, 2018
- Z.N. Hoppenstedt, J.J. Griffin, C.L. Rivard, **E.D. Pliakoni** and Mykel R. Taylor. 2018. Organic Sweetpotato Slip Yield and Quality from a Central United States High Tunnel System. American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting in Washington DC, July 31-August 3, 2018
- M. Lee, S. Sumpter, **E.D. Pliakoni**, C.L. Rivard and C.B. Rajashekar. 2018. Supplemental UV Affects Plant Growth and Nutritional Quality of Lettuce, Spinach and Tomato. American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting in Washington DC, July 31-August 3, 2018

- K. Gude, C.L. Rivard, C.B. Rajashekar and **E. D. Pliakoni**. 2018. The Impact of Light on Yield and Quality of Tomato and Lettuce Grown in High Tunnels. American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting in Washington DC, July 31-August 3, 2018
- M. Lee, S. Sumpter, J. Xu, **E. D. Pliakoni**, C. L. Rivard, W. Wang and C.B. Rajashekar. 2018. Effect of Spectral Quality of Light on Growth and Accumulation of Phytochemicals in Lettuce. American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting in Washington DC, July 31-August 3, 2018
- Z. N. Hoppenstedt, J. J. Griffin, C. L. Rivard, **E.D. Pliakoni** and M.R. Taylor. 2018. Strengthening Organic Sweetpotato Propagation Systems in the North Central Region. Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Conference. Our Farms, Our Future Conference: Envisioning the Next 30 Years of Sustainable Agriculture. April 3-5, 2018.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2018, Postharvest Handling of Berries. Great Plains Growers Conference January 11-13, 2017 St. Joseph, MO.
- A. Sasse, K. Gude, C.L. Rivard, **E.D. Pliakoni**, M. Talavera 2018 Effect of light characteristics on the sensory properties of red lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*). IFT 2018 July 15-18, Chicago IL
- K. Batziakas, H. Pontes Chiebao, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Production of Organic Tomatoes in High Tunnels Reduces Pre- and Postharvest Losses. *HortScience* 52(9) S264
- K. Batziakas and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017 Teaching a Plant Science Class in an Interdisciplinary Environment. *HortScience* 52(9) S313
- K.M. Gude, H. Pontes Chiebao, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Pre-harvest Effects on Postharvest Quality of Spring-planted, Day-neutral Strawberries in a High Tunnel System. *HortScience* 52(9) S252
- K.M. Gude, M. Swaney-Stueve, C. L. Rivard and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Consumer Test of Spring-Planted, Day-Neutral Strawberries Grown in a High Tunnel System. *HortScience* 52(9) S253
- Z.N. Hoppenstedt, J.J. Griffin, **E.D. Pliakoni**, M.R. Taylor, and C.L. Rivard 2017. High Tunnel Seed Systems for Organic Sweetpotato in the Great Plains Region. American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting 19-22/9 Waikoloa, Hawaii.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, R. Dostal, D. Loewen, C.L. Rivard, and C. Shoemaker. 2017. Examining Student Learning Outcomes from an Urban Food Systems Study Tour in the United States. 2017 Teaching Professor Conference: Cutting-Edge Learning of Exceptional Educators in St. Louis, June 1-4th.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, C. L. Rivard, J. K Brecht, J. A. Bartz and X. Zhao. 2017. Reducing food losses of locally grown produce by optimizing pre- and postharvest methods. Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (SAWG) Conference January 25-28, Lexington, KY.
- Cary L. Rivard, **E. D. Pliakoni**, and C. A. Shoemaker. 2017. Addressing food security with a graduate program in urban food systems. SAWG Conference January 25-28, Lexington, KY.
- K. Gude, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Yield and quality of spring planted, day-neutral strawberries in a high tunnel. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO.
- K. Batziakas, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Utilization of modified atmosphere packaging to increase shelf life. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO.

- K. Batziakas, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Basic postharvest handling methods. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO.
- H. Pontes Chiebao, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Enhancing postharvest quality and shelf life of locally-grown vegetables. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO.
- Z. Hoppenstedt, J. Griffin, **E.D. Pliakoni**, M. Taylor, C.L. Rivard, 2017 Organic Sweetpotato Propagation Systems in the North Central Region. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO.
- C.L. Rivard, K. Oxley, H. Chiebao, S. Gragg, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. The Koolkat: A demonstrational mobile cooling unit to support the development of small and/or urban farms. *HortScience* 51(9) S113
- H. Pontes Chiebao, L. Meyer, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. Reducing losses in organic spinach and tomato through the implementation of high tunnels. *HortScience*. 51(9) S111
- K. Gude, R. Dostal, C.A. Shoemaker, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. Enhancing graduate student experience and professional networks through an Urban Food Systems study tour. *HortScience* 51(9) S265
- K. Oxley, C.L. Rivard, J. Favor, S. Gragg, L. Nwadike, C. Shoemaker, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. The 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium: A professional meeting to change the way we think about global food security. *HortScience* 51(9) S141
- Helena Pontes Chiebao, Jacob R. Jenott, Daniel A. Unruh, Sara E. Gragg Cary L. Rivard , **Eleni D. Pliakoni**. 2016. Postharvest treatments to improve quality, safety and storage life, at non-optimum temperatures of locally grown vegetables in Kansas. VIII International Postharvest Symposium Cartagena, Spain, 21-24 June 2016.
- K. Gude, C.L. Rivard, H.P. Chiebao, M. Swaney-Stueve² and **E.D. Pliakoni**, 2016. Pre-harvest Effects on Postharvest Quality of Spring-Planted, Day-Neutral Strawberries in High Tunnels. VIII International Postharvest Symposium Cartagena, Spain, 21-24 June 2016.
- J. Jenott, H. Pontes Chiebao, J.A. Page, D. Unruh, S.E. Gragg, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. Evaluating the Efficacy of Ozone and Modified Atmosphere Packaging at Extending the Lag Phase of Native Microflora on Vegetables Stored at Non-Optimum Temperatures. 2016 International Association for Food Protection.
- J. Jenott, H. Pontes Chiebao, D. Unruh, S.E. Gragg, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. A preliminary investigation into the efficacy of potassium bisulfate as a pre-harvest intervention to control the foodborne pathogen surrogates *Listeria innocua* and *Escherichia coli* on lettuce. 2016 International Association for Food Protection.
- C.L. Rivard, K. Oxley, M.M. Kennelly, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. Integrating high tunnel production to provide resiliency for urban and peri-urban supply chains. 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium
- **E.D. Pliakoni** and C.L. Rivard. 2016. Increasing access to local food by extending shelf life of fresh fruits and vegetable. 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, C. L. Rivard, J. K Brecht, J. A. Bartz and X. Zhao 2016. Reducing food losses of locally grown produce by optimizing pre- and postharvest methods 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium

- C.L. Rivard, K. Oxley, H. Chiebao, S. Gragg, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. The Koolkat: A demonstrational mobile cooling unit to support the development of small and/or urban farms. 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium
- K. Gude, R. Dostal, C.A. Shoemaker, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. Developing an Urban Food System Study Tour to Enhance Student’s Experiential Learning. 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium
- K. Oxley, C.L. Rivard, J. Favor, S. Gragg, L. Nwadike, C. Shoemaker, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. The 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium: A professional meeting to change the way we think about global food security. 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium
- H. Chiebao, S.E. Gragg, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2016. Use of passive Modified Atmosphere Packaging at a non-optimum temperature to improve shelf life and quality of locally grown vegetables. 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, S. Gragg, and R-A. Collins. Opportunities and challenges of videoconference as a course delivery tool, Kansas State University. *The teaching Professor Technology Conference* 2-4 October 2015, New Orleans, USA.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, M.N. Ryan, H. Pontes Chiebao, L. Meyer, and C.L. Rivard. Reducing postharvest losses through the implementation of high tunnel systems. *Second International Conference on Agriculture in an Urbanizing society* 14-17 September 2015, Rome, Italy.
- C.L. Rivard, L. Meyer, **E.D. Pliakoni**, and M. Kennelly. The effects of leaf removal on adventitious root formation and plant growth of grafted tomatoes. *American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting* 3-7 August 2015, New Orleans, USA.
- K. Gude, C.L. Rivard, K. Oxley, H. Pontes Chiebao and **E.D. Pliakoni**. Pre harvest effects on postharvest quality of strawberries grown in high tunnels. *American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting* 3-7 August 2015, New Orleans, USA.
- M.N. Ryan, H. Pontes Chiebao, L. Meyer, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. The effect of high tunnel production on pre- and postharvest losses of fresh produce. *American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting* 3-7 August 2015, New Orleans, USA.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, S.E. Gragg, C.L. Rivard and R.A. Collins. Developing a new multidisciplinary course that incorporates videoconferencing as a tool to connect classrooms at two locations. *American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting* 3-7 August 2015, New Orleans, USA.
- H. Pontes Chiebao*, J.A. Page, J. Jenott, D. Unruh, S.E. Gragg, C.L. Rivard, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. Improving shelf life, quality and safety of locally grown vegetables in Kansas. *American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting* 3-7 August 2015, New Orleans, USA.
- C.L. Rivard, M. Fusselman, C.A. Shoemaker, **E.D. Pliakoni**, M. Bates, C. Creed, and K. Nixon. Growing growers: Facilitating the development of new farmers in order to strengthen local food systems. *World Food System Conference 2015 “Tackling World Food System Challenges”* 20-26 June 2015 Ascona, Switzerland. (poster presentation)
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, C.A. Shoemaker, R.R. Janke, and C.L. Rivard. Training the next generation of agricultural educators to grow local food systems in urban areas. *World Food System Conference 2015 “Tackling World Food System Challenges”* 20-26 June 2015 Ascona, Switzerland.
- J.K. Brecht, I. Uysal, M.C.N. Nunes, C.A. Sims, A. Odabasi, **E.D. Pliakoni**, J.P. Émond, G. Bennett, J.L. Wells. 2014. Remote environmental monitoring and diagnostics in the perishables supply chain: Phase II. Final Project Report to U.S. Army Natick Research,

Development and Engineering Center, Combat Ration Research and Development. Contract W911QY-11-C-0011. 354 p.

- **E. D. Pliakoni**, C. A. Shoemaker, R. Janke, and C.L. Rivard. Establishing a New Graduate Program in a Multidisciplinary Campus. *American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting*, 28-31 July 2014, Orlando FL.
- H. Pontes Chiebao, L.J. Meyer, C.L. Rivard and **E.D. Pliakoni**. Shelf Life and Quality of High Tunnel and Open-Field Tomatoes. *American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting*, 28-31 July 2014, Orlando FL.
- **E.D Pliakoni**, C.A Shoemaker, R. Janke and C.L. Rivard. Extending the Classroom through Videoconferencing: Challenges and Opportunities. *National Sustainable Agriculture Education Association Conference*, 3-6 August 2014, Raleigh NC.
- C.A Shoemaker, R. Janke C.L. Rivard and **E.D Pliakoni**. Building a New Graduate Program: A Model for Collaboration between Institutions and Industry. *International Society of Horticulture Congress*, 17-23 August 2014, Brisbane, Australia.
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, D.J. Huber, S.A. Sargent, and J.K. Brecht. Using Chlorophyll Fluorescence as an Indicator of Brown Stain (CO₂ Injury) in Romaine Lettuce. *International Society of Horticulture Congress*, 17-23 August 2014, Brisbane, Australia.
- **E .D. Pliakoni**, D.J. , Huber, S. A., Sargent and J. K., Brecht, 2013. Application of two different MAP systems in order to prolong the shelf life of Romaine lettuce during marine shipment. *ASHS Annual Conference*, 22-25 August 2013, Palm Desert, California, USA
- **E .D. Pliakoni** and G.D. Nanos 2013 Differential Effects of Deficit Irrigation and Reflective Mulch Application On Two Clingstone Peach Cultivars. *ASHS Annual Conference*, 22-25 August 2013, Palm Desert, California, USA
- **E.D. Pliakoni**, A. I. Deltsidis and J.K. Brecht, 2012. Does prior storage in air at optimum or higher temperature influence the potential benefit of controlled atmosphere for broccoli in simulated marine shipments? *ASHS Annual Conference*, July 31-August 3, 2012, Miami, Florida, USA

BOOK CHAPTERS

Brecht, J.K., **ED Pliakoni**, K Batziakas 20XX. The Impact of Temperature on MA Requirements and Effects: The Limits of Utility of MA. In M. Gil and R. Beaudry (Eds.) *Controlled and Modified Atmosphere for Fresh and Fresh-Cut Produce* (pp.XX) San Diego, CA: Elsevier (accepted)

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Workshops/Short courses

- **Developed and delivered a 5 days training to trainers short course in Postharvest Handling of horticultural crops in Morogoro, Tanzania** as part of the Capacity Building on Produce Postharvest Management in Tanzania project. May 2018
- **Developed and delivered a short course in Urban and Peri-Urban Food Production** for Food Security and Human Health with fellowship I received from the Greek Diaspora Fellowship Program (GDFP) .The course was offered March 2017 in Univ. of Thessaly Greece and we had more than 80 participants.

- **Invited to give a seminar** with title “Postharvest Handling in Produce” for the *Growing Growers* program May 2014, June 2015, my graduate student in 2016 and in May 2017 (around 20 participants each year).
- **Provided a demonstration on measuring quality and other postharvest handling techniques** as part of the Vegetable field day at the K-State Olathe Horticulture Research and Extension Center with my Post Doc Helena Chiebao, August 2015.
- Participated in the K-State Research and Extension Horticulture Program Focus Team, June 2014 in Kansas City with focus on Local Food Systems.
- **Developed extension and education postharvest material** as part of the Horticulture Collaborative Research Support Program (Hort CRSP) of the United States Agency for International Development (US AID) and the University of California, Davis. The international extension education presentations I created were on the topic, “Types of packaging for fresh horticultural crops – pros & cons.”
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Presentations

Invited speaker for the Great Plains Growers Conference 2015 and 2017, 2018 St. Joseph, MO.

Also: one student in 2014, two students in 2015, one student in 2016 and two students and my post-doc in 2017 presented their work at the Great Plains Growers Conference January St. Joseph, MO

- L.J. Meyer* and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2014. Postharvest quality and shelf life of tomatoes grown in high tunnels vs. the open-field’ Great Plains Growers Conference January 8-10, 2014 St. Joseph, MO. (Oral presentation)
- **E.D. Pliakoni***. 2015. Updates of the “Postharvest physical treatments to reduce losses of organic and other locally-grown produce” project as part of High Tunnel Workshop. Great Plains Growers Conference January 8-10, 2015 St. Joseph, MO. (oral presentation)
- **E.D. Pliakoni***. 2015. Basic postharvest handling for fresh produce, as part of the Beginning Organic section. Great Plains Growers Conference January 8-10, 2015 St. Joseph, MO. (oral presentation)
- K. Gude* and **E.D Pliakoni**. 2015. Catalyzing strawberry production in the Great Plains with the use of high tunnels and plasticulture production systems. Great Plains Growers Conference January 8-10, 2015 St. Joseph, MO. (oral presentation)
- M. Ryan* and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2015. Implementing high tunnel production to reduce pre- and postharvest crop losses. Great Plains Growers Conference January 8-10, 2015 St. Joseph, MO. (poster presentation)
- K. Gude* and **E.D Pliakoni**. 2016. Catalyzing strawberry production in the Great Plains with the use of high tunnels and plasticulture production systems. Great Plains Growers Conference January 7-9, 2016 St. Joseph, MO.
- K. Gude*, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Yield and quality of spring planted, day-neutral strawberries in a high tunnel. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO. (oral presentation)
- K. Batziakas*, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Utilization of modified atmosphere packaging to increase shelf life. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO. (oral presentation)
- K. Batziakas*, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Basic postharvest handling methods. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO. (oral presentation)
- H. Pontes Chiebao*, and **E.D. Pliakoni**. 2017. Enhancing postharvest quality and shelf life of locally-grown vegetables. Great Plains Growers Conference January 12-14, 2017 St. Joseph, MO. (oral presentation)

- **E.D Pliakoni 2018.** Postharvest Handling of berries.Great Plains Growers Conference January 11-13, 2018 St. Joseph, MO. (oral presentation).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Produce Safety Alliance** successfully completed the Produce safety Alliance course: PSA Train –the Trainer Course and became a certify trainer. Class Number KS-180523-INT. Trainer ID Number 46294. Training Date and Location 5/23/2018-5/24/2018.
- **Attended a USDA webinar** with the title “Competitive funding Opportunity” (May 2017).
- **Attended a Student Learning Assessment Workshop** provided from the College of Agriculture (May 2017).
- **Spring 2016 Teaching Workshop** “*Generation Me*”, February 5th, 2016.
- **Teaching & Learning Workshop** with title: “*High Impact Educational Practices for Graduate Students*” by Greg Eiselein on May 12 at K-State Olathe.
- **Third Annual Big XII Teaching and Learning Conference**, June 2-3, 2016
- **Workshop: “Teaching and Researching within the Field of Urban Horticulture”** at the American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting 8-11 August 2016, Atlanta GA, USA.
- **Workshop: “Developing Soft Skill in Tomorrow’s Leader’s** at the American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting 8-11 August 2016, Atlanta GA, USA
- **Workshop: “Asserting the Relevancy and Impact of Postharvest Programs Around the World”** at the American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting 8-11 August 2016, Atlanta GA, USA.
- **“International Opportunities for Research, Education, and Extension in Horticulture”**, at the American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting 8-11 August 2016, Atlanta GA, USA.
- **“Working with the Industry Boot Camp”** K-State workshop series, January to April 2015.
- **National Science Foundation NSF Communication Workshop “Science: Becoming the Messenger,”** K-State, 13-14 April 2015.
- **Reducing Postharvest Losses: Historical Perspective and Emerging Technologies** workshop at the American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting 3-7 August 2015, New Orleans.
- **Fresh Produce in the City: A Workshop and Tour** at the American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Meeting 3-7 August 2015, New Orleans.
- **Annual Summer Institute on Distance Learning and Instructional Technology (SIDLIT)** at Johnson County Community College, July 30-31 2015. Seminar, Dean of Graduate School about K-State Olathe, 29 January 2014.
- **National Science Foundation (NSF) grant training** in Olathe Campus, 29 January 2014
- **Grant writing seminar**, Manhattan, 24 April 2014.
- **“NSF career” workshop**, Manhattan, 25 April 2014.
- **Webinar on “Urban farming viability”** -29 of April 2014
- **Teaching and learning professional development training** in Olathe Campus, 6 June 2014
- **Teaching and learning professional development training** hosted by Dr. Royce Ann Collins on KSU-Olathe campus - 26 June, 2014

- Predicting Storage Out-turn Batches of Fresh Products at the International Society of Horticulture Congress in Brisbane, Australia, 21 August 2014.
- **Urban Agriculture Eco Devo 101** workshop, KC MO Health Department, 12 August 2013
- **New Faculty Teaching and Advising Training** Workshop, Manhattan, 15 August 2013.
- **College of Agriculture Teaching and Advising Workshop and Reception**, Manhattan, 19 August 2013
- **2013-14 K-State Ag Research Scholars (K-StARS) Faculty Development Program**, Manhattan, 21 November 2013
- **Essential Elements of Successful Education Research Proposals” (or “Is this a NASCAR Race or a Research Proposal Team?”)**, Manhattan, 16 December 2013
- **GAPs and GMPs for HACCP-Based Food Safety for the Fresh Produce Industry**, Feb. 21-23,2012, Extension Food Science Training Facility, University of Georgia Campus Athens, Georgia. USA. The course is accredited by the International HACCP Alliance
- **Quality & Innovation of Fresh-Cut produce”**, II European Short Course, “March 10-12th”, 2008, Cordoba, Spain
- **International Certificate on Postharvest Technology of Horticultural Crops (ICPT)** International student exchange program ATLANTIS, Jan 2007- Apr 2007 at Horticultural Sciences Department, Texas A&M University, USA
- **Certificate of Pedagogical and Teaching Competence**, one-year duration, General Department of Education, School of Pedagogical and Technological Education, Greece, 2006.
- **Training Seminar title: ‘Special Education in High School’**
Organized by the Laboratory of Neuropsychology, Department of Special Education, University of Thessaly in Volos (Oct 2009 to Jun 2010)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

National/International Professional Society Memberships:

- American Society for Horticultural Science (2011-present): Local Food Systems Working Group and Postharvest Working Group.
- Sustainable Agriculture Education Association (2014-present).
- International Society for Horticultural Science (2010-present).
- Member of K-State Gamma Sigma Delta (2015-present).

Committees:

- Chair of the 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium Organizing Committee
- Chair of 2016 Urban Food Systems Symposium Scientific Committee
- Member of the Scientific Committee of the 7th International Landscape and Urban Horticulture conference.

Ad hoc Reviewer:

- I have reviewed 15 manuscripts for scientific journals: *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture, Agriculture, Acta Horticulturae, HortTechnology* and *HortScience*

SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES

- **2017 Expression of University Strengths:** Candice Shoemaker, Cary Rivard and I were asked from the College of Agriculture to prepare a one-page “expression of strength”

proposal surrounding the Urban Food Systems program. The proposal was submitted and was approved.

- **Spend a week at University of Florida**, Gainesville, in Dr. Karen Koch lab, Professor of plant molecular and cell biology and got training on molecular based technics 25-29 Jan 2016.
- **Active member of the Greater Kansas City Food Hub working group, a team of non-for-profits** (led by KC Healthy Kids) and university extension partners (MU, Lincoln, KSU) dedicated to the expansion of local food markets to meet institutional and wholesale needs.
- **Host Dr. Elizabeth Micham, Director of the Postharvest Technology Center in UC Davis**, with the support the ADVANCE Distinguished Lecture Series, 13 and 14 of October 2014
- **Member of Urban Food System M.S program development team.**
- **Serving as co-Advisor to the Urban Food Systems cohort meetings.**
- **Contribution to K-State Olathe campus:**
 - Appointed as faculty of the School of Applied and Interdisciplinary Studies.
 - Member of the Professional Science Master (PSM) Curriculum Committee.
 - Represent the Urban Food System Specialization for the K-State Olathe campus.
 - Member of the scholarship committee for the K-State Olathe campus.
 - Invited to present my research and teaching program to the K-State Olathe Advisory Board.
 - Participated in the Olathe open house event on the 20th of April 2013, 5th of April 2014, 1st of April 2016 by introducing the M.S Urban Food Systems specialization as well as all the graduate student programs that HNR offers.
 - Participated at the Ingenuity Central that took place in K-State Olathe on April 9th 2015.
 - Participated in numerous strategic planning meetings for the Olathe campus: Program/course development, student recruitment, international student admission, vision and mission.
 - Attended most of the staff meetings at K-State Olathe (one every two months).
 - Attended most of the monthly teaching and learning meetings at K-State Olathe.
 - Meeting with prospective students, involved in recruiting efforts (webinars, flyers etc.)
 - Presented to the Olathe Faculty and Staff about the Urban Food Systems Master's Specialization content.
- Attended graduate student thesis/dissertation seminars when available
- Attended most departmental seminars
- Attended monthly faculty meetings
- Attended Teaching Faculty meetings

Collaborative Working Research and Extension Groups (proposals, pubs, etc.)

- KSU-Horticulture, Animal Science, Food Science, Adult Education
- University of Florida
- University of Thessaly, Greece
- University of California Davis
- Iowa State University
- Michigan State University
- North Carolina State University
- Ohio State University
- University of Arizona

- Washington State University

References

DR. JEFFREY K. BRECHT

Professor

Office: 1217 Fifield Hall

Phone: (352) 273-4778

Fax : (352) 392-5653

E-mail: jkbrecht@ufl.edu

DR. CANDICE SHOEMAKER

Professor

Kansas State University

1712 Claflin Rd-2021 TH

Manhattan, KS 66506

E-mail: cshoemak@ksu.edu

DR. LONDA VANDERWAL NWADIKE

State Extension Food Safety Specialist

Kansas State University/ University of Missouri

22201 W. Innovation Dr

Olathe, KS 66061

tel: 913-307-7391

email: lnwadike@ksu.edu

105 East 5th St

Suite 200

Kansas City, MO 64106

tel: 816-482-5860

email: nwadikel@missouri.edu