

JOSHUA EMMANUEL

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Education

Ph.D. Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University (Expected May 2031)
M.Sc. Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia (August 2026)
Thesis: Determinants of Farm Labor Contractor Utilization Intensity in the U.S Agricultural Labor Market.
B.Sc. Agricultural Economics, University of Ilorin (August 2021)

Research Interests

Agricultural Policy, Agricultural & Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics

Research & Academic Experience

Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant (Aug 2024 – Aug 2026)

University of Georgia, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

- Collaborated on a Georgia Farm Bureau–funded research grant examining labor market dynamics and wage violations in the H-2A program
- Conducted data analysis and prepared research briefs for stakeholder dissemination
- Provided instructional support for AAEC 6730: Agribusiness Accounting, including grading.

Agricultural & Natural Resource Extension Intern (May 2025 – Aug 2025)

University of Georgia Cooperative Extension

- Contributed to pecan disease trials and cotton variety performance evaluations, integrating economic, agronomic, and environmental analyses.
- Calibrated growers' boom sprayers to optimize pesticide use, enhance cost efficiency, and reduce ecological impact.

- Authored Extension blog content on pond turnover and oxygen crashes for producer outreach.

Volunteer Research & Program Contributor (Apr 2025 – Jul 2025)

CirculatE: Sustainable Investment Dialogue Initiative (Virtual)

- Designed discussion frameworks for webinars on sustainable finance, ESG liabilities, green innovation, and environmental risk assessment.
- Collaborated with CEOs, fintech consultants, and sustainability leaders to shape high-level discussions on climate finance and inclusive development.

Professional Experience

National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Member – Agricultural Programs

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Nigeria (Nov 2021 – Oct 2022)

- Completed specialized training on sustainable economic development and strategic planning.
- Supported asset verification and evaluation across three Local Government Areas.
- Contributed to monitoring and synthesizing state-level agricultural sector performance indicators.
- Contributed to the compilation of the Ministry's 2021 Annual Report, improving accuracy and efficiency in evidence-based policy documentation.

Founder and Manager

Greenlander AquaFresh, Nigeria (Nov 2022 – Jul 2024)

- Established and managed a profitable fish farming operation producing over 10,000 catfish per cycle.
- Achieved a sustained 53% profit margin through cost minimization, resource optimization, and environmentally responsible management.
- Applied microeconomic and production economics principles to improve operational efficiency.

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. Falola, A., Mukaila, R., & Emmanuel, J. O. (2022). "Economic analysis of small-scale fish farms and food security in North-Central Nigeria." *Aquaculture International*, 30, 2937–2952. Available online at <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10499-022-00944-1>
2. Bhuiyan, N. I., Emmanuel, J., & Escalante, C. L. (2026). "Are H-2A Workers Always More Expensive to Hire Than Domestic Labor?" *Choices*, 41(1), 1–9. DOI: 10.22004/ag.econ.371498. Available online at <https://doi.org/10.22004/ag.econ.371498>

Peer-Reviewed Extension Publications

1. Escalante, C. L., Emmanuel, J., & Gaire, B. (2024). "H-2A wage violations against workers hired by farm labor contractors." *Farm Management/Finance Mondays, Southern Ag Today*. Available online at <https://southernagtoday.org/2024/12/16/h-2a-wage-violations-against-workers-hired-by-farm-labor-contractors/>.
2. Escalante, C. L., Bhuiyan, N., & Emmanuel, J. (2025). "Understanding the H-2A labor affordability issue." *Farm Management/Finance Mondays, Southern Ag Today*. Available online at <https://southernagtoday.org/2025/09/22/understanding-the-h-2a-labor-affordability-issue/>.
3. Escalante, C. L., Emmanuel, J., & Bhuiyan, N. (2026). "Wage aggregation issues under the old and new AEWR methodologies." *Farm Management/Finance Mondays, Southern Ag Today*. Available online at <https://southernagtoday.org/2026/04/06/wage-aggregation-issues-under-the-old-and-new-aewr-methodologies/>.

Research Reports and Briefs

1. Escalante, C.L. and J. Emmanuel. (2025). "Trends and Issues in the Employment of H-2A Workers under the Farm Labor Contracting Model in Georgia." First Year Project Report submitted to the Georgia Farm Bureau.
2. Escalante, C.L. and Emmanuel, J. (2025). "Hiring H-2A Workers Through Farm Labor Contractors (FLCs)." Outreach Bulletin, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia.

3. Emmanuel, J. (Summer 2025). "Farm Labor Contracting Case Study – Georgia Blueberry Farm." Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia.
4. Emmanuel, J. (Summer 2025). "Farm Labor Contracting Case Study – Georgia Pecan Farm." Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia.

Presentations

"Rural Economics Situation and the Relevance of Microfinance in Africa." First-Year Odyssey Program, University of Georgia, October 6, 2025.

"Dougherty County Agricultural Production Trends: County-level Farm Gate Value Data." Resora Plantation, Albany, GA, June 24, 2025.

"Effectiveness of Fungicides for Pecan Scab Management in Southwest Georgia." Rock Eagle 4-H Center, University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, July 31, 2025.

Research Funding

"Trends and Issues in the Employment of H-2A Workers under the Farm Labor Contracting Model in Georgia"

Graduate Research Assistant with Cesar L. Escalante (Primary Investigator)

\$16,995. Georgia Farm Bureau

2025 – 2026

Skills

Software: STATA, R, Excel

Language: English (Fluent)