

WYATT PRACTH

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EDUCATION

Kansas State University – Manhattan, Kansas
PhD in Agricultural Economics

Expected Graduation Date: May 2027

Purdue University – West Lafayette, Indiana
MS in Agricultural Economics
Thesis: “Two Essays on Rural Youth in Kenya”

May 2023
GPA: 3.50/4.0

Kansas State University – Manhattan, Kansas
BS in Agricultural Economics

May 2017
GPA: 3.66/4.0

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas

August 2023 – Present

Graduate Research Assistant, Supervisors: Dr. Jisang Yu & Dr. Ben Schwab

Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University
West Lafayette, Indiana

August 2020 – May 2023

Graduate Research Assistant, Supervisor: Dr. Jacob Ricker-Gilbert

- Conducted the implementation of an RCT in Eastern Kenya geared towards training rural youth to become resellers of agricultural inputs
- Developed and supervised the baseline survey and two follow-up survey instruments for primary data collection amongst a sample of 397 rural youth
- Oversaw RCT field work and training curriculum development

U.S. Peace Corps/Senegal – Saré Yoba Mballo, Senegal

Sustainable Agriculture Extension Agent

September 2017 – November 2019

- Collaborated with smallholder farmers to build capacity and food security by extending enhanced agriculture techniques such as seed storage, composting and pest-management
- Procured and managed three USAID Feed the Future small grants for a local demonstration and training farm
- Co-administered weekly extension classes for nine local farmers on topics including erosion control, soil fertility, improved gardening methods and tree propagation
- Introduced improved seed varieties of corn, cowpea, rice, sorghum, millet, and fonio to 29 farmers across seven communities while collecting crop-specific field and harvest data

USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Sorghum & Millet
Manhattan, Kansas

January – July 2017

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Supervisor: Dr. Timothy Dalton

- Provided research assistance for journal article titled [“Costs, Benefits, and Welfare Implications of USAID Investment in Agricultural Research through U.S. Universities”](#) published in the Journal of Agricultural & Applied Economics in June 2022

- Assessed previous impact evaluation studies funded through the Collaborative Research Support Program and the USAID Innovation Lab system

Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Manhattan, Kansas

March 2014 – July 2017

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Supervisors: Dr. Glynn Tonsor & Dr. Rich Llewelyn

- Synthesized data involving livestock prices and quantities into slaughter, historical price and forecast charts for weekly publish on AgManager.info

WORKING PAPERS

1. “Post-Harvest Inputs and Rural Youth: Short- and Medium-term Evidence from a Randomized Trial in Kenya,” (with Jacob Ricker-Gilbert).
2. “The Impacts of an Employment Offer on the Aspirations of Rural Youth: Experimental Evidence from Kenya,” (with Jacob Ricker-Gilbert).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“The Impacts of an Employment Offer on the Aspirations of Rural Youth: Experimental Evidence from Kenya”, (Selected Paper) Presented at 2023 AAEA Annual Meeting, Washington, D. C., July 25, 2023.

“Post-Harvest Inputs and Rural Youth: Evidence from a Randomized Trial in Kenya”, (Selected Paper) Presented at: 2022 AAEA Annual Meeting, Anaheim, California, August 2, 2022.

“Building Sustainable Supply Chains through Rural Youth: Evidence from a Randomized Trial in Kenya”, (Selected Paper) Presented at: 2022 IFAD International Conference, Rome, Italy, June 22, 2022.

GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

- Timothy R. Donoghue Graduate Scholarship (\$5,000), Kansas State University 2023
- Hicks Graduate Student Research Grant (\$6,500), Purdue University 2022
- D. Woods Thomas Memorial Research Grant (\$1,500), Purdue University 2022
- Butz Graduate Scholarship (\$2,000), Purdue University 2020

AFFILIATIONS

Agricultural & Applied Economics Association, Kansas State Agricultural Economics Graduate Student Organization

REFEREEING

Agricultural Economics (1), Agricultural Finance Review (1), Journal of Development Studies (1), MwAPATA Institute Working Paper Series (1)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Programming: Stata, World Bank Survey Solutions, Excel

Languages: English (Native), Pulaar – Fulakunda (Advanced), French (Intermediate)