

Finote Gijsman

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EDUCATION

Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey Sep 2020 – Present
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Pringle Lab

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois Jun 2019
Bachelor of Arts, Double Major in **Biology (Plant Concentration)** and **Environmental Sciences**.
Cumulative GPA: 3.72/4.0 | Dean's List: 10/12 quarters
Relevant Courses: Community Ecology, Quantitative Methods in Ecology and Conservation, Plant Biology,
Spring Flora, Population Genetics, and Applied GIS.

Duke University, Tropical Biology on a Changing Planet, Costa Rica Aug 2017 – Dec 2017

- Fieldwork-based study abroad program in Costa Rica run by the Organization for Tropical Studies and Duke University.

Cumulative GPA: 4.0/4.0
Relevant Courses: Research Methods in Tropical Biology, Fundamentals in Tropical Biology, Environmental Sciences and Policy in the Tropics.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Department Honors in Environmental Sciences Jun 2019
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Recipient of Undergraduate Research Grants (\$13,500) Jun 2016 – May 2019
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Northwestern Scientific Image Contest Winner Sep 2017
Helix Magazine, Science in Society, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Fletcher Best Research Award Finalist Oct 2016
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

PUBLICATIONS

Gijsman, F., Havens, K., & Vitt, P. (2020). Effect of capitulum position and weevil infestation on seed production of threatened monocarpic perennial, *Cirsium pitcheri*. *Global Ecology and Conservation*, 22, e00945, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gecco.2020.e00945>.

Gijsman, F. & Guevara, M. (2020). Yellow-headed caracara as cleaner of white-tailed deer in urban park. *Journal of Raptor Research* (in press).

Gijsman, F. & Vitt, P. (*In Review*). Site source, capitulum position, seed weight and temperature as factors driving the timing and germination of *Cirsium pitcheri* seeds. Submitted to *American Journal of Botany*.

Amador, S., **Gijsman, F.**, & Guevara, M. (*In Prep*). Ant-reward adjustments in *Vachellia collinsii* mutualism with *Pseudomyrmex spinicola*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant Feb 2020 – Jun 2020
Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology, Jena, Germany

- Investigated neuronal circuits governing odor-dependent behaviors in *Manduca sexta*.
- Conducted wind tunnel experiments to establish behavioral meaning of ecologically relevant odors for *M. sexta* females.
- Correlated odor-guided behavior with odor-evoked neuronal responses in *M. sexta* antennae using electroantennography (EAG) and single-sensillum recordings (SSR).

Research Assistant Sep 2019 – Dec 2019

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama City, Panama

- Investigated ant-reward and defense system adjustments in acacia (*Vachellia collinsii*) trees inhabited by mutualistic (*Pseudomyrmex spinicola*) and parasitic (*P. simulans*) ants.
- Conducted herbivory simulation experiments to determine the impact of extreme herbivory on the ant-plant symbiosis.
- Surveyed and measured acacia tree growth over the course of three months at various field sites across Panama.

Student Researcher

May 2016 – Jun 2019

Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, Illinois

- Established parameters for larger *Cirsium pitcheri* population viability analysis by identifying and investigating factors influencing seed germination, plant growth, reproduction and survival in the context of climate change and other related threats.
- Conducted olfactory experiments on non-native weevil, *Larinus planus*, to determine scent preferences for oviposition in different *Cirsium pitcheri* flower head stages.
- Collaborated on a pollinator network study of *Cirsium pitcheri* in Door County, Wisconsin to establish the species' importance as a food source for insects in the region.
- Performed yearly demography and mapping surveys of *Cirsium pitcheri* at two sites in Door County, Wisconsin, to assess recovery and status of threatened dune species.
- Developed project protocols for reintroduction of threatened orchids at the Ridges Sanctuary in Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin.

Student Researcher

Aug 2017 – Dec 2017

Organization for Tropical Studies, Costa Rica

- Investigated memory-based learning of prey unpalatability in Wandering spider (*Cupiennius* sp.) at Las Cruces Biological Station in San Vito, Costa Rica.
- Surveyed anole lizards (*Norops aquaticus*) at Las Cruces Biological Station in San Vito, Costa Rica in premontane primary and mature secondary forest habitats, to determine site selection preferences.
- Collaborated on a reef research project in Bocas del Toro, Panama at the Institute of Tropical Ecology and Conservation, investigating the territorial behavior of Three-Spot Damselfish (*Stegastes planifrons*).
- Conducted independent research at La Selva Biological Station in Heredia, Costa Rica, investigating the water loss rates of leaf fragments harvested by leaf cutter ants (*Atta cephalotes*).

African Crop Consortium Lab Intern

Jul 2015 – Sep 2015

World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), Nairobi, Kenya

- Conducted and compared DNA extractions for different tree species using numerous extraction protocols.
- Performed gel electrophoresis, PCR, Nanodrop qualification and quantification analyses with extracted DNA to determine best extraction and purification methods.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Bioscientist Program Peer Mentor

Jan 2016 – May 2019

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

- Led two small groups of 3-4 first year undergraduate students, accepted into a research preparatory program through the process of developing a research project and writing a competitive grant.
- Helped students navigate the science research environment at Northwestern University in weekly preparatory workshops.
- Reviewed and provided feedback on grant proposals written by students for submission to undergraduate research grant application.

Office of Undergraduate Research Peer Mentor

Apr 2017 – Sep 2018

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

- Mentored undergraduate students who received research grant and were undertaking independent research for the first time.
- Attended peer mentor training sessions and workshops focused on mentoring theory and developing communication practices.
- Facilitated information sessions for undergraduate students on research and career development.

Undergraduate Biology Lab Teaching Assistant

Jan 2018 – Jun 2018

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

- Collaborated with Biology faculty member, teaching two weekly 4-hour undergraduate biology lab courses.
- Supervised lab experiments, ensured safety and assisted students with lab equipment.
- Developed students' analytical skills by providing guidance during lab.

International Student Association Public Relations Chair

Jun 2016 – Jun 2017

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

- Ran organization's social media accounts and oversaw all marketing and promotion of events.
- Organized bimonthly "Country Showcases" to promote awareness of various cultures among international and American students and create a better social atmosphere at Northwestern University.

SKILLS

Language:	English (Fluent), Spanish (Fluent), French (Intermediate speaking, reading); basic (writing).
Computer:	Proficient in R data analysis, JMP, Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Adobe Photoshop, ImageJ and GIS (basic).
Laboratory:	Seed propagation, Gel electrophoresis, qPCR, Western Blot, Co-Immunoprecipitation, EVOS Microscopy, Nanodrop qualification and quantification, Electroantennography, Single-sensillum Recordings.
Fieldwork:	Basic plant and insect identification, Trimble Global Positioning System.