Roger Renzo Ramirez Antazu

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Education

2023-2026	Ph.D. Plant Pathology, University of Florida, FL.
2021-2022	M.S. Plant Pathology, University of Florida, FL.
2012-2017	B.S. Agronomy, Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina, Peru

Professional Work Experience

2021-present | Graduate Research Assistant, University of Florida, FL.

- Developed strategies to collect aerosolized *Xanthomonas euvesicatoria* pv. *perforans* using 3-D printed cyclonic samplers from tomato fields and greenhouses.
- Performed qPCR assays to quantify aerosolized bacteria recovered from tomato fields and greenhouses.
- Designed and conducted field trials to identify copper alternatives for the management of black rot (*Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *campestris*) in cabbage.
- Identified and characterized Xanthomonas spp. using whole genome sequencing analysis.
- Characterized copper tolerance and streptomycin resistance in *Xanthomonas campestris* strains and their virulence level under greenhouse and field conditions.
- Mentored technicians and students about laboratory and field protocols.

2020 | Greenhouse supervisor, Gandufresh, Peru.

- Supervised irrigation and fertilization of bell pepper production under greenhouse conditions.
- Designed micro-element concentration assays to improve bell peppers' root system.
- Identified optimal levels of relative humidity to prevent dehydration of bell pepper plants.

2018-2019 | Agricultural Technician, Glades Crop Care, FL.

- Managed new out-of-state clients, and communicated pest scouting data directly to field supervisors.
- Diagnosed insect and disease issues in over 300 acres of tomato fields in Florida and Tennessee for clients.
- Scouted vegetables, citrus, berries, and ornamentals under field and greenhouse conditions in Florida.
- Collected field and laboratory data in variety trials for lettuce and sugarcane crops.

• Participated in local extension service meetings to support clientele and promote the company.

2018 | Production Technician, Grupo Eberz, Peru

- Evaluated cost-reduction production methods using asexual propagation in Gerbera.
- Optimized harvest of Chrysanthemum to prevent dehydration during flower transportation.
- Enhanced fertilizer program for different phenological stages of Lilium production.

2015 - 2017 | Quality Control Supervisor, Agroferias – Mistura, Peru

- Supervised quality of fresh and processed products in three Fresh Markets located in Lima.
- Encouraged fluent communication between customers and Fresh Market vendors to achieve continuous improvements.

Publications

R.R. Ramirez, N.S. Dufault, M.L. Paret, and G.E. Vallad. 2024. Field evaluations of plant defense activators and sulfur as alternatives to copper bactericides for the management of cabbage black rot in Florida. *Plant Health Progress*, *25*(4), pp.438-445. <u>https://doi.org/10.1094/PHP-03-24-0023-RS</u>

Awards

2025 | Graduate Student Research Competition. 3rd Place. 102nd Southern Division Meeting.

2025 | Student Travel Award. 102nd Southern Division Meeting.

2024 | Student Travel Award. 1st Biennial Department of Plant Pathology Research and Professional Development Symposium

2023 | Student Travel Award. The Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization.

2023 | Graduate Student Research Competition. 3rd Place. 100th Southern Division Meeting.

Membership

2021 – Present | Student membership American Phytopathological Society - Southern Division

Leadership

2023 | Gulf Coast Postdoc and Student Association (GCPSA). Treasurer and Sponsorship Committee Chair. University of Florida.

Academic Presentations

R.R. Ramirez, G.J. Giles, W.F. Mahaffee, J.B. Jones and G.E. Vallad. 2025. Tracking aerosolization and long-distance dispersal of *Xanthomonas euvesicatoria* pv. *perforans* during mock pesticide applications. APS 102nd Southern Division.

R.R. Ramirez and G.E. Vallad. 2024. Identification of copper-tolerance among *Xanthomonas campestris* strains from brassica fields in Florida reveals a potential trade-off in virulence. First Biennial Department of Plant Pathology Research and Professional Development Symposium.

R.R. Ramirez, G.J. Giles, W.F. Mahaffee, J.B. Jones and G.E. Vallad. 2024. Evaluation of active cyclonic sampling of aerosolized *Xanthomonas euvesicatoria* pv. *perforans* from tomato fields in Florida. APS 100th Southern Division.

R.R. Ramirez and G.E. Vallad. 2023. First survey of pathogenic Xanthomonas on Florida brassicas identifies *X. euvesicatoria* pv. *perforans* strains causing black rot. APS Southern Division.

R.R. Ramirez and G.E. Vallad. 2022. In search of effective copper alternatives: Performance of plant defense activators and sulfur against cabbage black rot in Florida. APS Plant Health 2022.