

Govinda Sapkota, PhD
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Summary

Research scientist with more than 6 years of experimental research experience in plant based bioactive compounds.

Accomplished project manager with experience in managing 5 research projects within 7 years of graduate research period.

Effective communicator with publication record of 3 peer reviewed journal articles and 7 presentations in national and international conferences.

Education

Degree	Institution	GPA	Degree Date
Ph.D. Plant Science (Pomology/Postharvest)	New Mexico State University	3.8	May 2023
MS (Horticulture)	Oklahoma State University	4.0	May 2018
BS	Tribhuvan University	N/A	Sep 2013

Professional Experience

Project Manager

2015 - 2023

- **New Mexico State University Graduate Research** *May 2018-May2023*
“Nutrient Content, Dynamics with Maturity, and Effect of Drying Methods on Nutrient Preservation in Jujube (Ziziphus jujuba Mill.) From Different Locations in the Southwest United States”
 - Analyzed different bioactive compounds, including total phenolic content, Proanthocyanidins, antioxidant activities, vitamin C, and cyclic adenosine monophosphate in jujube of different cultivars at 3 different edible maturity from 3 different locations of New Mexico.
 - Investigated the retention of different bioactive compounds in jujube fruits during drying, including freeze drying, sun drying, and oven drying.
 - Performed statistical and quantitative analyses.

- Authored research papers and presented in different national and international conferences.

- **New Mexico State University Teaching Assistant**

2021-2023

- Conducted and instructed the lab class for the undergraduate level course titled “Introduction to Plant Science” (5 semesters).
- Procured experiment supplies, prepared teaching materials, and assisted other Teaching Assistants while working as the lead Teaching Assistant (Twice).
- Assessed assignments, supervised tests, and assigned grades in adherence to university standards.
- Delivered a guest lecture on Chinese jujubes to undergraduate students.

- **Oklahoma State University Graduate Research** **Aug 2015 – May 2018**

“Optimizing Proanthocyanidins Extraction from Grape Seeds in Winery Wastes”

- Executed Solid-Liquid-Extraction to extract and quantify Total Phenolic Content and Proanthocyanidins from grape seeds and press cake of diverse grape cultivars employing spectrophotometric/colorimetric techniques.
- Applied Solid Liquid Extraction to extract and quantify Total Phenolic Content and Proanthocyanidins from grape seeds and grape seed press cake of three grape cultivars, employing variations in organic solvent concentrations, solvent pH, and extraction time for optimization.
- Explored water’s potential use as an extraction solvent, comparing ultrasound-assisted extraction using an ultrasonic processor with conventional methods to optimize polyphenol extraction from diverse grape cultivar’s seeds and press cake.

Leadership and Organizational Experience

2015 – present

- Gained as member of different social and academic organizations

- American Society for Horticultural Science.

- Cultural coordinator and secretary of Nepalese Student Association at Oklahoma State University and New Mexico State University.

Project Manager

2014 –2015

- Gained as Project Officer at Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal

- Contributed to the planning and execution of comprehensive programs addressing agriculture and food security.
- Facilitated coordination with local government administrations to ensure program alignment and efficacy.
- Assumed a supervisory role, effectively evaluating and managing employee performance within the organizational framework.

Selected Publications

(Govinda Sapkota, Shengrui Yao, Efren Delgado, Dawn VanLeeuwen, F. Omar Holguin, Nancy Flores)

- Preservation of Phenols, Antioxidant Activity, and Cyclic Adenosine Monophosphate in Jujube (*Ziziphus jujuba* Mill.) Fruits with Different Drying Methods (*Plants*, 2023).
<https://doi.org/10.3390/plants12091804>
- Dynamics of Nutrients in Jujube (*Ziziphus Jujuba* Mill.) at Different Maturity Stages, Cultivars, and Locations in the Southwest United States. (*HortScience*, 2022).
<https://doi.org/10.21273/HORTSCI16880-22>

Awards and Honors

- One of the PhD projects featured in American ASHS press release
<https://ashs.org/news/634881/Dynamics-of-Nutrients-in-Jujube-at-Different-Maturity-Stages-Cultivars-and-Locations.htm>
- ASHS annual conference student travel grant, 2021 and 2022.
- David Hopper Memorial Academic & Travel Scholarship, 2017 - 2018 Oklahoma State University.
- Jerry Francis Benton Memorial Graduate Student Scholarship, 2016 – 2017.
- Graduate Sumpter Fellowship, Oklahoma State University, August 2015 - 2017.
- Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship (2006-7) from the government of India.

Skills

Extraction	Solid liquid extraction, ultrasound-assisted extraction, Dehydration/Lyophilization, bioactive compounds
Quantification and Characterization	Spectrophotometer (Colorimetric assay), Antioxidant activity assays, HPLC, LC-MS, Titration
Project Management	Research design, collaboration, data analysis, scientific writing, extension
Computer Languages	MS Word, MS Excel, PowerPoint, SAS
Languages	English, Nepali, Hindi
Others	Teaching

Hobbies

- Yoga, Meditation, Music, Literature, Social service