



Plant & Soil Sciences

Highlights

100% of graduates are placed in graduate school or the career of their choice

4:1 student to faculty ratio

Undergraduate research

Where do you see yourself?

Agronomic sales representative

Crop consultant

Educator

Ecological restoration specialist

Environmental consultant

Environmental scientist

Extension specialist

Farm/ranch manager

Marketing manager

Plant breeder

Precision agriculture specialist

Research scientist/technician/
manager

Soil conservation technician

Soil survey specialist



The goal of plant and soil sciences is to meet society's need for food, feed, fiber and fuel through the conservation and management of plant and soil resources.

You will work alongside faculty who contribute to biotechnology, crop production, environmental remediation, plant breeding and genetics, plant physiology, soil chemistry, soil nutrient management, soil physics, water quality and weed science.

Crop consulting, research and development, natural resource and conservation science, teaching and production agriculture are common career paths for plant and soil sciences majors.

Within plant and soil sciences, you have the option to select a predefined emphasis area or work with your faculty adviser to customize your plan of study. These areas include:

Agribusiness

Students under this option will be equipped with scientific and practical agronomic background and will be provided with key business management and economic concepts vital to agribusiness success.

Plant Biotechnology & Improvement

Students interested in crop breeding, plant biotechnology or working in a scientific laboratory should choose this option.

Crop Production & Management

This option is designed for students whose interest is in growing plants and who are passionate about achieving sustainable production of crops for food, feed, fiber and/or fuel.

Soil & Water Science

Students interested in applications of soil science in crop production, environmental and engineering concerns will be a good fit in this option.



Scholarship Dollars

The Department of Plant and Soil Sciences awarded more than **\$110,000** in scholarships to students in the department last year. CASNR awarded an additional **\$460,000** to students within the college.



Why Study Plant and Soil Sciences?

If you want to be part of one of the most rapidly growing industries in the world, help to produce a stable and safe food supply and/or protect and utilize our nation's greatest natural resource – soil, a degree in plant and soil sciences may be for you! The current job market for degree holders in the plant and soil sciences is the best in the last 30 years with current signs pointing to further growth in the future. As a plant and soil sciences student, you will experience field-based classes, numerous laboratory experiments, non-traditional classroom settings and hands-on learning. Along with institutional instruction, our internship program will build your professional network, help you develop technical skills and prepare you for the workforce.

Organizations and Student Teams

There are two clubs within plant and soil sciences: Soil and Water Conservation Society and Agronomy Club. Each of these clubs travel to two national meetings each academic year. Students compete in events and gain professional development through involvement. There are also student competition teams within plant and soil sciences: OSU Soil Judging Team, OSU Crop Judging Team and OSU Weeds Judging Team. Soil judging teaches students how to use technical skills to describe and interpret soils. Crop judging incorporates plant and seed identification, grain grading and seed analysis. Weeds judging involves weed plant identification, weed seed identification and coming up with control measures for different weeds.

Fast Fact: *The plant and soil sciences industry has more than 7.25 billion customers, three times a day. This will increase to 9.2 billion people by 2050.*

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Sergio Abit

Assistant Professor of Soil Science, Oklahoma State University

Dr. Sergio Abit earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture from Visayas State University (VSU) in 1996. He joined the Department of Agronomy and Soil Science at VSU in 2001 as a faculty member. Dr. Abit then studied Soil Science at North Carolina State University, earning a master's degree and his Ph.D. in 2009. Dr. Abit also worked as a research soil scientist for the USDA-ARS in Bowling Green, Kentucky before joining the faculty in the Plant and Soil Sciences Department at Oklahoma State University.

At OSU, Dr. Abit focuses primarily in soil science teaching and is the undergraduate program coordinator, academic adviser and serves as the OSU Agronomy Club adviser. He is also a member of the Environmental Science Program Steering Committee. Abit researches sustainable, practical septic strategies for the state of Oklahoma.

CASNR Fast Facts

>>> Faculty Advising <<<

40+

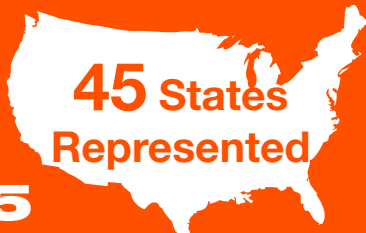
Student Organizations

\$1.4

Million in Scholarships each year

13:1

Student to Faculty Ratio



45 States Represented

4 out of 15

OSU Outstanding Seniors

Expanding Minds, Inspiring Purpose

College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources

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