

**Maria Consuelo Donato Molina**

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**EDUCATION**

- 2018 Doctor of Philosophy in Hispanic Studies.  
Texas A&M University - College Station
- 2001 Specialization in Agri-Business. 2000. Universidade Federal de Uberlandia, Minas Gerais, Brasil. (372 Hrs. – equivalent to a M.S.)
- 1999 Master of Science degree in Rural Development. Universidad Javeriana, Bogota, Colombia.
- 1996 Specialization in Analysis and Management in Conflict Resolution. Universidad Nueva Granada, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 1991 B.S. in Agricultural Engineer. Universidad de Caldas, Manizales, Colombia.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2018-currently Assistant Professor of Research & Instruction, Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness & Environmental Sciences, Texas A&M University-Kingsville.  
\*2023-currently faculty for AGRI 3995 Internship Course. Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness & Environmental Sciences, TAMUK.  
\*2019-2024 Program Coordinator for NSF- Center for Research Excellence in Science and Technology for Sustainable Water Use (CREST-SWU) at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.  
\*2018-currently Project Manager for USDA-NIFA HSI and AFRI Grants “Undergraduate Career Experiences (Internships) & Research Opportunities Program” in Dick & Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Texas A&M University- Kingsville
- 2018-2021 Adjunct faculty for AGR 3995 Internship Course. Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness & Environmental Sciences, Texas A&M University-Kingsville.
- 2018- 2020 Pos-doctoral Research Associate, Texas A&M University-Kingsville  
US Department of Agriculture-AFRI-ELI Program.
- 2012 – 2018 Graduate Research Assistant as Project manager for USDA-NIFA HSI and AFRI Grants in Dick & Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Texas A&M University- Kingsville
- 2017 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Fall Internship Course AGRI 3995.
- 2014 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Spanish instructor, Department of Language and Literature, Texas A&M University-Kingsville.
- 2010 – 2012 Teacher and Research Assistant, Department of Animal, Rangeland and Wildlife Sciences, Texas A&M University- Kingsville.
- 2003-2009 Land Recovery Consultant, Uberlandia, Minas Gerais; Brazil.
- 1998-1999 Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development of Colombia. Bogota, Colombia.
- 1995 -1998 Advisor to the General Director of the “Land Use National Institute of Colombia: Instituto Nacional de Adecuación de Tierras, INAT”. Bogotá.

1994-1995 Vice National Director of the “Integrated Rural Development Fund: Fondo de Desarrollo Rural Integrado, DRI.” Ministry (Department) of Agriculture, Bogotá, Colombia.

**FUNDED GRANTS – TAMU-KINGSVILLE**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>as P.D/P. I</u>	<u>as Co-PD/Co-P. I</u>
2018	\$ 265,000	\$165,000	\$100,000
2019	\$ 155,000	\$	\$155,000
2020	\$275,000	\$	\$275,000
2021	\$1,725,314	\$	\$1,725,314
2022	\$309,250	\$	\$309,250
2023	\$387,440	\$	\$387,440

**Funded Grants:**

- \$ 165,000 USDA-NIFA Post-Doctoral Fellows grants.** START ACTING: Student Track & Awareness in Relation to Agriculture Careers, Transition between Institutions & Novel Gain. M.C. Donato (PD), S.D. Nelson (Co-PD). (6/18-5/21).
- \$ 100,000 USDA-NRCS.** Provide NRCS Educational Tours, Internships and Career Opportunities for Hispanic and Other Students. T. Machado (PD), S.D. Nelson, M.C. Donato, R. Stanko, D. Sotomayor (UPRM). 9/1/2018-07/01/2020.
- \$ 155,000 USDA-NRCS.** Provide NRCS Educational Tours, Internships and Career Opportunities for Hispanic and Other Students. T. Machado (PD), S.D. Nelson, M.C. Donato, R. Stanko, D. Sotomayor (UPRM). 9/1/2019-07/01/2021
- \$275,000 USDA-NIFA-HSI regular grant program. AgriCULTURE.** PD: M. Velez-Hernandez, CoPDs: S. Nelson, T. Machado, M. C. Donato. 9/1/20-8/31/2024.
- \$150,000 USDA-NRCS.** Natural Resource Career Development Program and NRCS Educational Tours. T. Machado (PD), M.C. Donato, R. Stanko, and S.D. Nelson. 9/1/2021-07/01/2023
- \$200,000 USDA-NIFA- AFRI -Multicultural Scholars grant program. Pre-Vet Experiential Agriculture Learning (M-SPEAL).** PD: T. Machado, Co-PDs: C. Donato, M. Garcia, J. Apple, S. Nelson. 9/1/21-8/31/24.
- \$975,314 USDA-NIFA HSI collaborative grant program. GO START NOW.** TAMUK lead, FIU and UPRM. PD: R. Stanko, CoPDs: S. Nelson, S. Chumbley, M. Consuelo Donato, T. Machado, A. Bhandari, G. Schuster, K. Jayachandran (FIU), D. Sotomayor (UPRM), et. al. 9/1/21-8/31/25.
- \$400,000 USDA-NIFA-AFRI REEU grant program. The Drone WAVE FACTOR.** PD: H. Perotto, CoPDs: M.C. Donato, E. Tanner, N. Mast. 9/1/21-8/31/2025
- \$257,000 USDA-NIFA-HSI regular grant program. Connecting the Dots** in the Global Fresh Produce Market. PD: V. Ancona, M.C. Donato, J. Cabrera. 9/1/22-8/31/26.
- \$ 34,250 Partners of the Americas Foundation** (in collaboration with the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs of the U.S. Department of State-WHA/DOS). Data Analysis and Entrepreneurship: A Binational (U.S. – Brazil) Faculty and Student Exchange program. J. Espiritu (PD Lead), C. Donato, F.O. Aguirre, H.A. Taboada, and S.D. Nelson. 12/7/22-12/31/23.

**\$237,440** USDA-NIFA HSI collaborative grant program. Educating the Future Workforce of Underrepresented Students in International Agriculture. St. Mary’s lead, TAMUK, Norman Borlaug Institute-TAMU. TAMUK PD: G. Schuster, Co-PDs: M.C. Donato, D. Friend. 9/1/2023-8/31/27

**\$150,000** USDA-NRCS. Natural Resource Career Development Program and NRCS Educational Tours. T. Machado (PD), M.C. Donato, R. Stanko, and S. Dattamudi. 9/1/2023-07/01/2025

**GRANT PROGRAM MANAGER**

**USDA Grants- Undergraduate Students Served and Placed in Summer Internships**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Undergraduate Students Served</u>	<u>Undergraduate Placed in Summer internship</u>
2012	35	-
2013	29	29
2014	31	31
2015	40	40
2016	21	21
2017	36	33
2018	43	43
2019	49	44
2020	39	-
2021	31	26
2022	40	20
2023	58	24
2024	54	22

**Student Tours Created and Supervised:**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Total # TAMUK Students</u>
2017	Costa Rica Workshop	3
2018	Costa Rica Workshop	3
2019	Costa Rica Workshop	3
2019	Puerto Rico & Texas Educational Tours	5
2021	Costa Rica Workshop	10
2021	Puerto Rico & Texas Educational Tours	5
2021	Puerto Rico - AgriCULTURE Tour	5
2022	Costa Rica Workshop	5
2022	Puerto Rico & Texas Educational Tours	5
2022	Puerto Rico - AgriCULTURE Tour	5
2022	Colombia – Educational Workshop	5
2023	Mexico – Educational AG-Tour	10
2023	Brazil – Educational AG-Tour	6
2023	Colombia – Educational Workshop	4
2023	California -Educational AG-Tour	5
2023	Puerto Rico & Texas Educational Tours	7

2024	Costa Rica Workshop	5
2024	Puerto Rico - AgriCULTURE Tour	5
2024	Brazil – Educational AG-Tour	2
2024	Guatemala – Educational AG-Tour	1
2024	Florida- Educational AG-Tour	5

**NSF Grant – CREST- Research Center for Sustainable Water Use  
Students Served:**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Undergraduate</u>	<u>M.S.</u>	<u>PhD</u>
2019-2020	2	12	-
2020-2021	15	18	1
2021-2022	22	19	3
2022-2023	10	18	4
2023-2024	11	10	3
2024-2025	8	8	1

**Advisory Board Committees Arranged:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Grant</u>
03/21/2021	TAMUK	NSF CREST-SWU
04/21/2022	TAMUK	NSF CREST-SWU
04/24-25/2023	TAMUK	NSF CREST-SWU
06/17/2024	online	NSF CREST-SWU

**Student Presentation Event Arranged/Supervised:**

**USDA Grants:**

09/20/2021 - “2017 Student Summer Career Experience (Internships) Presentations”  
 09/19/2018 - “2018 Student Summer Career Experience (Internships) Presentations”  
 09/24/2019 - “2019 Student Summer Career Experience (Internships) Presentations”  
 10/04/2025 - “Undergraduate Career Experiences (internships) & Research Showcase 2023-2024”

**NSF CREST-SWU Grant:**

08/09/2021 – “NSF-CREST Students Symposium”  
 07/27/2022 – “NSF-CREST Students Symposium”  
 04/24/2023 – “NSF-CREST Students Symposium”  
 07/31/2024 – “NSF-CREST Students Symposium”

**SERVICE – TAMU-KINGSVILLE**

2024 USAID Institutional Point of Contact for TAMUK  
 2024 International Student Strategic Planning Committee  
 2024 USDA-NIFA-AFRI Peer Reviewer Panel Member  
 2024 USDA-NRCS-TAMUK Direct Hiring Event - Coordinator  
 2023 Search Committee for the Director of International Students Services

- 2022-currently Curatorial Council Member for the “Re-Envisioning the Conner Museum & South Texas Archives”
- 2022-currently Conner Museum Ground Project: Annual Tamalada Festival - Planning Committee Member
- 2022-currently Faculty Advisor for the Minorities in Agriculture (MANRRS) TAMUK-Chapter
- 2022-currently General Education Committee
- 2022-currently University Women’s Club
- 2022 TAMUK Strategic Enrollment Plan Development. I served as a group member for the Marketing/Communications Group.
- 2022 Hispanic Heritage Committee member.
- 2022 Smithsonian Intern Selection Committee member.
- 2022 Led MOU between TAMUK and Serviço Nacional de Aprendizagem Industrial- SENAI, Goiás, Brazil.
- 2022 Led MOU between TAMUK and Instituto Federal de Educação, Ciência e Tecnologia Goiano, Goias,
- 2022 Led Agreement for Collaborative Activities between TAMUK-College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Universidad de Caldas (Colombia)- College of Agriculture.
- 2022 Led Agreement for Collaborative Activities between TAMUK-College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Instituto Tecnológico Superior de Salvatierra, Mexico.
- 2022 Led MOU between TAMUK-College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, College of Engineering and JuventudEsGto to provide scholarships for students from the State of Guanajuato, Mexico to attend G.S at TAMUK.
- 2021 Led MOU between TAMUK and Universidad de Caldas (Colombia)
- 2021 Led MOU between TAMUK and Instituto Tecnológico Superior de Salvatierra, Mexico.

**HONORS and AWARDS**

- 2024 USDA HSI E. Kika De La Garza Fellowship. DC July 6-13, 2024.
- 2022 – 2023 Dean’s Excellence Award for *Dick & Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Texas A&M University-Kingsville*
- 2018 – 2020 USDA-NIFA AFRI-ELI Post-Doctoral Fellowship. Award #2018-67012-27987. HSI Grant in *Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness & Environmental Sciences, Texas A&M University-Kingsville.*
- 2012 – 2018 USDA-NIFA Pre-Doctoral Fellowship. HSI Grant in *Dick & Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture, Natural Resources & Human Sciences, Texas A&M University- Kingsville.*
- 2014 Graduate Teaching Assistantship. *Department of Language and Literature, Texas A&M University - Kingsville.*
- 2015 – 2016 Advising Award for *Dick & Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture, Natural Resources & Human Sciences, Texas A&M University-Kingsville.*

## REFERRED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Meagher, Anoruo, A., Turner, B., Holland, P., Nelson, S.D., **Donato-Molina, M.C.** 2024. Patch growth of seashore paspalum (*Paspalum vaginatum*) treated with inorganic fertilizer and organic biostimulant. Open Journal of Environmental Biology. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.17352/ojeb>

Morgan, E.I., Zamora, E., Nelson, S. D., **Donato-Molina, M. C** and Anoruo, A. 2024. Effects of deficit irrigation in pepper plants (*Capsicum annuum*) grown under greenhouse conditions. World J. Agri. & Soil Sci. 9(2):1-7. DOI:10.33552/WJASS.2024.09.000709

Anoruo, A., Turner, B., Garcia, M., Nelson, S., **Donato-Molina, M.C.** 2024. Morphological and Anatomical Development of *Solanum lycopersicum* Seedling Grown with Non-Conventional Water. Int J Agri Res Env Sci. 2024;5(1):1–4. DOI: 10.51626/ijares.2024.05.00039

## NON-REFERRED PUBLICATIONS

Nelson, S., Stanko, R., **Donato, C.** January 2021. Start Now to Reap the Rewards Later. Futurum Sci-Comm publishing. Pg 1-6. <https://doi.org/10.33424/FUTURUM98>

Perotto, H., Hewitt, D., Ortega-S, A., Foley, A., DeYoung, R., Brennan, L., Kuvlesky, W., Hernandez, F., Tanner, E., Fulbright, T., Bell, N., **Donato, C.** “The Drone Program at CKWRI: 5 Years in the Skies” Caesar Kleberg Tracks 7(1), Spring 2022 pages 4-7.

## PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

S.D. Nelson, R.L. Stanko, **C. Donato-Molina**, T. Machado, S. Chumbley, D. Sotomayor, K. Jayachandran, and M. Bhat. Getting occupational student training in agricultural research through novel workshops. Panel: *Investing in Equity & Agriculture: USDA-funded Collaborations at Hispanic-Serving Institutions*. A Community on Ecosystem Services (ACES) Conference. Austin, TX. Dec. 9-12, 2024 (Invited).

Velez-Hernandez, M., **Donato-Molina, M.C.** (Co-Presenters). **Agriculture Connections to USDA: Lifestyle and Training of Undergraduates thru Real world Experiences (AgriCULTURE)**. Workshop. NACTA Annual Conference, Wooster, OH, June 24-28, 2024.

Tanguma, K., Perotto, H., **Donato, M. C.**, Falk, F., Tolleson, D., Nelson, S. “Linking Soil Moisture with Photosynthetic Activity with very high-resolution imagery” Texas Section Society for Range Management, Bastrop, TX, October 18-20, 2023.

Reyes-Cabrera, J., **Donato, C.** “Can cover crops do anything for the Texas citrus industry?” Supplement to HortScience Volume 58(9) September 2023.

Nelson, S., **Donato, C.**, Ancona, V. “Higher Education in the United States: Innovation and Opportunities for Partnerships” Texas A&M University-Kingsville, August 18, 2023.

Jayachandran, K., **Donato, C.**, Nelson, S., Sotomayor, D., Stanko, R., and Espiritu, J. “Promoting undergraduate students in soil, environmental, and crop sciences careers through special experimental learning activities”. NACTA Annual Conference, Las Cruces, NM. June 20-23, 2023. (poster).

Tanguma, K., Perotto, H., Falk, A., Massey, L., Avila, J., Ortega, A., Tanner, E., **Donato, C.**, Nelson, S. “Measuring Water and Nutrients in Rangeland Grass Species: what can we learn from drone data?” Texas Section Society for Range Management, Denton, TX, October 19-21, 2022 (graduate poster).

**Donato, C.** “USDA Funding for Increasing Hispanic Students’ Success in Agricultural Careers”. Speaker at the Rotary Club-Kingsville Meeting. April 5, 2022. (oral)

**Donato, C.** “USDA Funding for Increasing Hispanic Students’ Success in Agricultural Careers” Speaker at the Building Capacity and Competitiveness for over \$430M in USDA Grant Support Webinar, organized by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, March 1, 2022 [AASCU website](#) (focus on international grants)

**Donato, C.** “Texas A&M University-Kingsville: Un Lugar para Ciudadanos del Mundo Lideres en Agricultura” FITEM: Foro de Innovación Tecnológica y Emprendimiento. Instituto Tecnológico Superior de Salvatierra; Salvatierra, Guanajuato. March 12-13, 2021 (virtual).

**Donato, C.**; Chumbley, S.; Nelson, S. “Impact of Students’ Undergraduate Internship Experiences in the Development of Technical and Communication Skills for Agriculture.” ASA, CSSA and SSSA International Annual Meeting. Virtual, November 9-13, 2020 (Oral).

**Donato, C.**; Nelson, S. “START NOW for Increasing Hispanic Students in Horticultural Sciences.” American Society for Horticulture Science Annual Conference. Virtual, August 10-13, 2020 (International workshop).

Venegas, B; Sanchez, Y; **Donato, C**; Ganguli, A. (Co-Presenters). “Career with USDA-NRCS, Guiding Students on Internship Opportunities. Latinos in Agriculture Leaders Conference, Dallas, Texas, November 8, 2018. (Oral)

**Donato, C.** “Mexican and Mexican-American farmworkers and the American Dream.” South Central Modern Language Association Conference. San Antonio, October 13, 2018. (Oral)

**Donato, C.** “Sueños y pesadillas de trabajadores rurales migrantes en tres novelas chicanas: ... *Y no se lo trago la tierra, Corazón descalzo y Under the Feet of Jesus.*” (PhD dissertation). Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX. April 19, 2017. (Oral)

**Donato, C**; Hartwig, R. “The Peace process in Colombia.” Southwest Council of Latin American Studies (SCOLAS) Conference. Campeche, Mexico. March 9, 2017. (Oral)

Ruppert, D; Nelson, S; Stanko, R; Schuster, G; Machado, T; **Donato, C.** “Student Training in Agricultural Research Techniques by Novel Occupational Workshops (START NOW).” Workforce Diversity and Career Opportunities within the USDA for Current and Recent Graduates Conference. Albuquerque, NM. February 16, 2017. (Poster)

Stanko, R; Nelson, S; Machado, T; Schuster, G; **Donato, C**; “Finding Balance in Undergraduate Research for Graduate School and Career Preparation in Agricultural Sciences.” 2016 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference, University of Hawaii, Manoa. June 21, 2016. (Oral)

Nelson, S; Stanko, R; Machado, T; Schuster, G; **Donato, C**. Lukefahr, S. “STEP UP to USDA Career Success Program Participation Increased Graduation Rates and Final GPA of Undergraduate Agriculture Students from South Texas.” 2016 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference. University of Hawaii, Manoa. June 21, 2016. (Oral)

Stanko, R; Nelson, S; Machado, T; Schuster, G; **Donato, C**. “Challenges and Opportunities for Underrepresented Agriculture Students in Obtaining USDA Job Training in the STEP UP to USDA Career Success Program.” 2015 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference. Athens, Georgia. June 16, 2015. (Poster)

**Donato, C**. “El jazz en Rayuela: un viaje de reconciliación con el pasado rural” SIGMA DELTA PI 14th Student Academic Symposium. Department of Language and Literature, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX. April 22, 2015. (Oral)

**Donato, C**; Stanko, R; Nelson, S; Machado, T; Schuster, G. “Engaging Underrepresented Students through Ag Related Career and Research Training in the ‘STEP UP to USDA Career Success’ Program.” Agricultural Science Education Conference. Miami, FL November 20th to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014. (Poster)

**Donato, C**. “Poesía y feminismo en al-Andalús: Wallāda la Omeya y Hafsa Bint al-Hāyâ Ar-Rakūniyya de Granada.” SIGMA DELTA PI 13th Student Academic Symposium. Department of Language and Literature, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX. November 13, 2014. (Oral)

**Donato, C**. “El sujeto rural fundacional en la “silva de la agricultura de la zona tórrida” SIGMA DELTA PI 12th Student Academic Symposium. Department of Language and Literature, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX. April 24, 2014. (Oral)

**Donato, C**. “El sujeto rural y la ruptura de la tradición en ‘...Y no se lo trago la tierra’”. SIGMA DELTA PI 11th Student Academic Symposium. Department of Language and Literature, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX. October 24, 2013. (Oral)

**Donato, C**. “El Giro Esclavista: Género y Raza en la novela Sab”. SIGMA DELTA PI 10th Student Academic Symposium. Department of Language and Literature, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX. April 25, 2013. (Oral)

**Donato, C**; Nelson, S; Schuster, G; Stanko, R; Machado, T. “Preparing Hispanic Students to be Leaders in their Communities.” CETARS Symposium. August 12-13, 2013. Mayagüez, Puerto Rico (Poster)



**Donato, C.** “Continuidad y ruptura de la mentalidad colonial en Arturo Bustos”. SIGMA DELTA PI 9th Student Academic Symposium. Department of Language and Literature, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX. November 1, 2012. (Oral)

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

TAMUK-Hispanic Faculty Council, 2020 - currently

Spanish National Honor Society, chapter Texas A&M Kingsville.

North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture, NACTA

SIGMA DELTA PHI, Language & Literature. Chapter Texas A&M University-Kingsville

The Honor Society of PHI KAPPA PHI

Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences – Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Faculty advisor.

ASA, CSSA and SSSA member

**STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS**

2014. Cultural Studies. Texas A&M University-Kingsville to Morocco and Spain.

2013. Cultural Studies. Texas A&M University-Kingsville to Puerto Rico.