

RODRIGO A. ORTEGA-BLU

Currently works as Professor at the Commercial Engineering Department of Technical University Federico Santa Maria (UTFSM), in Chile.

In 2018 co-founded the Latin American Association on Precision Agriculture (ALAP) and appointed as its first president for the period 2018-2020. Currently is the Vice president for the period 2024-2026.

From 2011 to 2013 was the Academic Director of Campus Vitacura of UTFSM in Santiago.

In 2008 founded Agriservice SpA, a company devoted to research, consulting, and special laboratory analysis in the areas of microbiology, biochemistry, and chemistry.

In 2009 created and directed (from 2009 to 2013) the Master Program on Agricultural Technology and Management (MGTA) at UTFSM.

In 2008 was the cofounder of the International Society of Precision Agriculture and has served as Country representative since that date. He is also served in the LA chapter.

In 2005 created and led the Advanced Centre for Agricultural Technology (CATA) at UTFSM.

In 2004 he cofounded the Company, NeoAg Precision Agriculture, dedicated to products and services of Precision Agriculture.

From 2001 to 2004 worked as Professor at Pontifical Catholic University. He was the creator and Director of the former Precision Agriculture Research Centre (CAPUC).

From 2000 to 2001, worked as Agricultural Director for SQM, a large multinational fertilizer company, in Mexico.

From 1987 to 2000 worked at the National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA) in Chile. He created the program on Precision Agriculture and the National Soil Fertility Laboratory, a state-of-the-art facility to support research and extension in soil fertility and plant nutrition. From 1997 to 1999, was appointed as Head of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Has worked as private national and international consultant in Precision Agriculture, soil fertility and plant nutrition, agricultural market and fertilizer product development, etc. Countries in which has worked include: Chile, Mexico, Peru, Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Bolivia, and Cuba.

Has participated in several national and international meetings such as conferences, congresses, seminars, symposiums, etc., in Europe, the United States, Oceania, and Latin America.

He is the author or co-author of more than 140 technical and extension publications.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. 1997 Agronomy Colorado State University Fort Collins, CO, USA

M.S. 1995 Agronomy Colorado State University Fort Collins, CO, USA

B.S. 1986 Agronomy Universidad de Concepción Chile

HONORS AND AWARDS RECEIVED

- 1996 Recipient- "J. Fielding Reed" PPI Fellowship by Potash and Phosphate Institute. USA.
- 1994 Recipient- "Hunter Follet" award by Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, Colorado State University. USA.
- 1987 Recipient- "Premio Universidad de Concepción" award by University de Concepción to its best-graduating students.
- 1987 Recipient- "Premio Sociedad Agronómica de Chile", by Chilean Society of Agronomy to the best agronomy-graduating students of Chilean Universities.
- 1987 Recipient- "Premio Facultad" award by College of Agricultural Sciences, Universidad de Concepción, to the best agronomy-graduating student.
- 1986 Recipient-"Shell-Chile" fellowship by the Shell Company to the best Agronomy student at Universidad de Concepción.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Sociedad Agronómica de Chile
American Society of Agronomy
Soil Science Society of America
Crop Science Society of America
International Society of Precision Agriculture (co-founder)
Asociación Latinoamericana de Agricultura de Precisión (co-founder)
Asociación Chilena de Agricultura de Precisión
Colegio de Ingenieros Agrónomos de Ñuble.
Gamma Sigma Delta. Honor Society of Agriculture

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Las Condes, Santiago, Chile, June 2024