

**For assistance communicating with Vineland researchers, please contact:**

Nathalie Dreifelds, MSc, MBA 905-562-0320 x777  
 Advisor, Communications & Public Relations

[nathalie.dreifelds@vinelandresearch.com](mailto:nathalie.dreifelds@vinelandresearch.com)

**Horticultural Science and Innovation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Expertise</b>	<b>Cross Appointment at universities</b>
Tania Humphrey, PhD	Chief Scientific Officer	Organizational development; Research strategy and priority-setting; Strategic planning	
Gary Moffatt, MBA, P. Eng	Chief Operating Officer	Greenhouse construction project management; Implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning systems; Lean management principles	

**Consumer Insights in the Horticulture Sector**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Expertise</b>	<b>Cross Appointment at universities</b>
Amy Bowen, PhD	Research Director, Consumer Insights	Consumer insights; Consumer science; Sensory evaluation; Sensory panels (trained and untrained); Using consumer data to build marketing programs; Promotion of new fruit tree cultivars; Building the Canadian cider industry; Certified sommelier	Associated Graduate Faculty, Food Science, University of Guelph
Alexandra Grygorczyk, PhD	Research Scientist, Consumer Insights	Consumer insights and sensory evaluation for ornamentals, edible garden plants, flowers for Asian-Canadians, landscape roses; Food science; Science communication	Adjunct Faculty & Special Graduate Faculty, Food Science, University of Guelph Associated Graduate Faculty, Food, Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of Guelph

### Robotics and Automation in the Horticulture Sector

Name	Title	Expertise	Cross Appointment at universities
Ali Iskurt, PhD	Research Scientist, Computer Vision	Computer vision; Image and signal processing; Pattern recognition; Artificial intelligence; Gripper technology; Robotic mushroom harvesting	
Mohamed Kashkoush, PhD	Research Scientist, Data Mining & Optimization	Data mining and optimization of production systems; Efficient production systems; Gripper technology; Robotic mushroom harvesting	
Brian Lynch, PhD	Research Scientist, Robotics & Automation	Guidance, navigation and control; Machine learning; Computer vision; Mobile robotics; Adaptive systems; Robotic manipulators	

### Horticultural Production Systems

Name	Title	Expertise	Cross Appointment at universities
Michael Brownbridge, PhD	Research Director, Horticultural Production Systems	Biocontrol tools; Biopesticides; Biostimulants; Integrated Pest Management (IPM); Microbial control	Associated Graduate Faculty, Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph
Rose Buitenhuis, PhD	Research Scientist, Biological Control	Biological control; Entomology; Greenhouse pests; Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	Adjunct Faculty, School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph
Darby McGrath, PhD	Research Scientist, Nursery & Landscape	Ecological restoration to increase urban tree survival; Fertilization practices; Greening the Canadian Landscape; Highway of Heroes tree plantings; Nursery production; Soil remediation	Adjunct Lecturer, Environment & Resource Studies, University of Waterloo Adjunct Professor, Environmental Sustainability Research Centre, Brock University
Lijuan Xing, PhD	Research Scientist, Plant Pathology	Plant pathology; Bioassay for both airborne and soilborne plant pathogens; Ecology and biology of plant pathogens; Biological control; Seed treatment; Plant health evaluation	

### Applied Genomics

Name	Title	Expertise	Cross Appointment at universities
Travis Banks, MSc	Research Scientist, Bioinformatics	Bioinformatics; DNA sequence analysis; Genetic mapping; Trait development in horticulture products	Special Graduate Faculty, Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph
David Liscombe, PhD	Research Scientist, Biochemistry	Analytical chemistry; Biochemical profiles for horticulture products; Metabolites; Plant biochemistry	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Biology, McMaster University Adjunct Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences, Brock University
Michael Pautler, PhD	Research Scientist, Applied Genomics	Applied genomics; Disease resistance; DNA sequencing; Increased production efficiencies; Induced variation; Reverse genetics; Trait development	
Valerio Primomo, PhD	Research Scientist, Vegetable Breeding	Breeding locally-adapted greenhouse tomatoes; Breeding sweet potato for early maturity; Genetic mapping; Marker-assisted selection; Plant genetics	
Daryl Somers, PhD	Research Director, Applied Genomics	Apple breeding; Applied genomics; Disease resistance; DNA sequencing; Improved flavour; Increased production efficiencies; Induced variation; Reverse genetics; Trait development	Adjunct Professor, Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph