

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH - Maria Soto-Aguilar

### A. PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Universidad Rómulo Gallegos (Venezuela)	Agricultural Engineering	1990	
Universidad Central de Venezuela	Agronomy/Plant Protection	1994	M.Sc.
University of California-Davis	Plant Pathology	2002	Ph.D.

### B. APPOINTMENTS

2002-present	Postdoctoral Associate, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, St. Louis, MO
1996-2002	Doctoral Research, University of California-Davis, Davis, CA
1997-2000	Teaching Assistant, University of California-Davis, Davis, CA
1990-1997	Teaching Assistant/Associate, Universidad Rómulo Gallegos, San Juan de los Morros, Venezuela
1991-1994	Masters Research, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Maracay, Venezuela
1991-1994	Instructor, Universidad Rómulo Gallegos, San Juan de los Morros, Venezuela

### C (i). PUBLICATIONS

**Soto, M.J.** and R.L. Gilbertson. Distribution and rate of movement of the *Curtovirus beet mild curly top virus* (Family *Geminiviridae*) in the beet leafhopper. *Phytopathology* 93:478-484. 2003. DOI 10.1094/PHYTO.2003.93.4.478.

**Soto, M.J.** Chen L.F., Seo Y.S. and Gilbertson R.L. Identification of regions of the *Beet mild curly top virus* (family *Geminiviridae*) capsid protein involved in systemic infection, virion formation and leafhopper transmission. *Virology* 341: 257-270. 2005. DOI:10.1016/j.virol.2005.07.009

### C (ii). OTHER SIGNIFICANT PUBLICATIONS: N/A

### D. SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES

1. As a teaching assistant in Physics, I wrote a "guide to physics problems" and it was available in the library of the Universidad Romulo Gallegos.
2. I mentored two interns at UC Davis and DDPSC (NSF-funded REU summer undergraduate research intern program). One of them was from an underrepresented group.
3. I give tours of DDPSC to the general public: show the facilities and talk about the research done at the Danforth Center.
4. I made science demonstrations to school kids and members of the DDPSC Friends program.

### E (i). COLLABORATORS AND CO-EDITORS

R. L. Gilbertson, UC Davis, CA  
L.F. Chen, UC Davis, CA  
Y.S. Seo UC Davis, CA

### E (ii). GRADUATE ADVISORS AND POSTDOCTORAL SPONSORS

Graduate advisor (Master degree): G. Trujillo, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Venezuela  
Graduate advisor (PhD): R. L. Gilbertson, UC Davis, CA  
Postdoctoral advisor: R. N. Beachy, DDPSC, Saint Louis, MO

### E (iii). THESIS ADVISOR AND POSTGRADUATE-SCHOLAR SPONSOR

None