



WILLIS “TURNER” SPRATLING

Graduate Research Assistant (Ph.D.)

Department of Plant Pathology, University of Georgia, Griffin Campus

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- **Ph.D. (Plant Pathology)** **2020- present**
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Georgia – Griffin Campus, Griffin, GA, USA
- **Master of Plant Protection and Pest Management, M.P.P.P.M** **2018**
Department of Entomology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA
- **Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (B.S.A., Agriscience and Environmental Systems)** **2017**
University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Graduate Teaching Assistant** **2021- present**
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Georgia - Griffin Campus, Griffin, GA, USA
- **Graduate Research Assistant (Ph.D.)** **2020- present**
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Georgia - Griffin Campus, Griffin, GA, USA
- **UGA Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent- Glynn County** **2019-2020**
University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, Brunswick, GA, USA

PUBLICATIONS

- Spratling, W. T., Sapkota, S., Vermeer, B. C., Mallard, J., Ali, E., Martinez-Espinoza, A., & Bahri, B. A. (2021). First Report of Gray Leaf Spot Caused by *Pyricularia oryzae* (synonym: *Magnaporthe oryzae*) in Oat (*Avena sativa*) in Georgia, USA. *Plant Disease*, (ja).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Summer Turfgrass Management (June 2021: Griffin, GA), Georgia Master Gardener Extension Seminar Series

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Turfgrass pathology
- Genetic diversity of dollar spot pathogens
- Sustainable management of dollar spot disease

FELLOWSHIPS/ AWARDS / HONORS

- **University of Georgia Graduate School Summer Research Grant (2021)**, Agency: University of Georgia Graduate School, Awarded: \$1,500
- **University of Georgia Plant Center Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (2021)**, Agency: University of Georgia Plant Center, Awarded: \$5,000

CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS

- Poster presentation: 'Effects of UV-c light on dollar spot suppression and turf quality in seashore paspalum' at the Plant Center Retreat 2021, organized by University of Georgia, GA, USA

PROFESIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER SERVICE

- American Phytopathological Society Member
- University of Georgia Society of Aspiring Plant Pathologists Student Representative for the UGA Griffin Campus (2022)
- Student mentor with Pike County High School STEM Academy