

Zachariah Rutledge

Email: rutled83@msu.edu

Current Employment **Assistant Professor (August 2022 - Current)**
Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University

Education **Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics (2020)**
University of California, Davis
Dissertation Title: "From the Farm to the City: How the Changing Supply of Immigrant Workers Impacts the United States" [Link](#)
Committee: Pierre Mérel (chair), J. Edward Taylor, and Giovanni Peri
Fields: Labor, Agriculture, Econometrics, Development

M.S. in Agricultural and Resource Economics (2016)
University of California, Davis

A.B. in Economics (with highest honors) (2015)
University of California, Davis

Publications **Peer-Reviewed**

"Farm Labor Supply and Fruit and Vegetable Production," with Pierre Mérel. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. (forthcoming). [Link](#)

"Economic Assimilation of Mexicans and Central Americans in the United States," with Giovanni Peri. *IZA Journal of Development and Migration*. (2022). [Link](#)

"The H-2A Program in California," with Philip Martin. *California Agriculture*, 75(3):135-141. (2022). [Link](#)

"Viewpoint: The Future of Work in Agri-Food," with Luc Christiaensen and J. Edward Taylor. *Food Policy*, 99. (2021). [Link](#)

"Can Wages Rise Quickly Enough to Keep Workers in the Fields?" with Diane Charlton, J. Edward Taylor, and Stavros Vougioukas. *Choices*, 34(2). (2019). [Link](#)

"Innovations for a Shrinking Agricultural Workforce," with Diane Charlton, J. Edward Taylor, and Stavros Vougioukas. *Choices*, 34(2). (2019). [Link](#)

Book Chapters

"Evolving Agricultural Labor Markets," with Diane Charlton and J. Edward Taylor. Chapter 77 in C. Barrett and D. Just (Eds.), *The Handbook of Agricultural Economics*. (2022). [Link](#)

"The Short-Run Impacts of Immigration on Native Workers: A Sectoral Approach," with Pierre Mérel. Chapter 6 in R. Sauer (Ed.), *World Scientific Handbook of Global Migration*. (forthcoming). [Link](#)

"Economic and Societal Aspects," with J. Edward Taylor. Chapter 10 in S. G. Vougioukas and Q. Zhang (Eds.), *Advanced Automation for Tree Fruit Orchards and Vineyards*. (forthcoming). [Link](#)

Outreach

"The H-2A Foreign Worker Program in 2020," with Philip Martin and Marcelo Castillo. USDA-ERS, Economic Information Bulletin. (forthcoming). ([Draft currently unavailable due to ERS policy](#)).

"Federal Labor Standards Enforcement in Agriculture: Data Reveal the Biggest Violators and Raise New Questions About How to Improve and Target Efforts to Protect Farmworkers," with Daniel Costa and Philip Martin. *Economic Policy Institute Report*. (2020). [Link](#)

"What Is the Future of Work in Agri-Food?" with Luc Christiaensen and J. Edward Taylor. *Brookings Institution*. (2020). [Link](#)

"Revisiting Economic Assimilation of Mexican and Central American Immigrants in the United States," with Giovanni Peri. *Cato Institute Research Briefs in Economic Policy*, No. 220. (2020). [Link](#)

"COVID-19 and Farm Workers: Challenges Facing California Agriculture," with Timothy Beatty, Alexandra Hill, and Philip Martin. *ARE Update*, 23(5). (2020). [Link](#)

"Recent Mexican and Central American Immigrants Have Performed Well in the Labor Market, but There Is Room for Improvement." *U.C. Davis Global Migration Center Immigration Facts Series*. (2020). [Link](#)

"California Farmers Change Production Practices as the Farm Labor Supply Declines," with J. Edward Taylor. *ARE Update*, 22(6). (2019). [Link](#)

Working Papers

"Agricultural Labor and Bargaining Power," with Timothy Richards. [Link](#)

"Spillover Effects of Minimum Wages in US Agriculture," with Timothy Richards, Marcelo Castillo, and Philip Martin. [Link](#)

"Chinese Trade Competition and Rural Mexican Migration," with Joaquin Mayorga. [Link](#)

Research Experience Postdoctoral Research Scholar

Under the Supervision of Timothy Richards, Arizona State University, January 2021 - August 2022

Graduate Student Researcher

For Professor Pierre Mérel, Intermittently Between July 2016 - December 2020

For Professor J. Edward Taylor, Intermittently Between July 2018 - September 2020

For Professor Giovanni Peri, September 2019 - December 2019

Consulting

California Agricultural Labor Relations Board, March 2021 - Current

National Council of Agricultural Employers, March 2021 - Current

Migration Dialogue, March 2020 - December 2020

World Bank Group, November 2018 - June 2019

Hoover Institution, June 2017 - August 2017

Teaching Experience Lecturer, University of California, Davis

Undergraduate: Agricultural Labor Economics, (ARE 150), Spring 2022

Guest Lecturer, University of California, Merced

Master's: Labor, Automation, and Sustainability in Agriculture: A Convergent Study, Winter 2022

Guest Lecturer, University of California, Davis

Undergraduate: Continuing and Professional Education: Japanese Agriculture Trainee Program, Fall 2019

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Davis

Master's: Applied Econometrics 1 (ARE 256A), Fall 2016

Undergraduate: Agricultural Labor Economics (ARE 150), Spring 2016, Spring 2018, Spring 2019

Econometrics (ARE 106), Winter 2018

Operations Research and Management Science (ARE 155), Winter 2017

Investment (ARE 143), Winter 2016

Selected Presentations

"Chinese Trade Competition and Rural Mexican Migration." Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, August 2, 2022.

"Dollar Store Entry and Rural Welfare." Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, August 2, 2022.

"Agricultural Labor and Bargaining Power." Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, August 1, 2022.

"The Impact of Minimum Wage Shocks on Low-Skilled Workers in the United States: Evidence from the H-2A Visa Agricultural Guestworker Program." Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting. Austin, TX, August 2, 2021.

"Actions the Biden Administration and Congress Can Take to Better Protect Farmworkers." Economic Policy Institute, Virtual Presentation, February 10, 2021.

"No Farm Workers, No Food? Evidence From Specialty Crop Production." United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service Challenges in Specialty Crop Production Workshop. Virtual Presentation, July 29, 2020.

"The Effects of a Declining Farm Labor Supply on California Agriculture." University of California, Davis Global Migration Center Affiliate Meeting. Davis, CA, February 5, 2020.

"The Short-Run Impacts of Immigration on Native Workers: A Sectoral Approach." Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, July 23, 2019.

"Adapting to Labor Scarcity." Infaco Live Webinar Series. July 18, 2019.

"The Effects of a Declining Farm Labor Supply on California Agriculture." Poster Session, U.C. Davis Economics Department Alumni Conference. Davis, CA, May 10, 2019.

"Farmworkers and Nonfarm Work: Evidence from the NAWS." Department of Labor's NAWS at 30 Conference. Davis, CA, April 4, 2019.

"The Short-Run Impacts of Immigration on Native Workers: A Sectoral Approach." Gifford Center for Population Studies, Migration Research Cluster Workshop. Davis, CA, December 6, 2018.

"Evidence of a Changing Farm Labor Supply." University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Cooperative Extension Annual Vegetable Crops Meeting. Davis, CA, November 27, 2018.

"Agricultural Labor in the United States." Peruvian Delegation from Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina. Davis, CA. November 5, 2018.

"Immigration and Economic Performance Across the Fifty United States from 1980-2015." Poster Session, All-California Economics Labor Conference. Los Angeles, CA, October 4, 2018.

"Immigration and Economic Performance Across the Fifty United States from 1980-2015." Poster Session, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C., August 7, 2018.

"The Short-Run Impacts of Immigration on Native Workers: Evidence from the US Construction Sector." Gifford Center for Population Studies, Migration Research Cluster Workshop. Davis, CA, November 9, 2017.

Selected Grants

USDA-ERS RRED Co-op Grant (with Timothy Richards), 2022: \$20,000

USDA-ERS RRED Co-op Grant (with Timothy Richards and Lauren Chenarides), 2021: \$20,000

Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics Minigrant (with Pierre Mérel), 2020: \$30,000

Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics Minigrant (with J. Edward Taylor), 2020: \$30,000

Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics Minigrant (with Pierre Mérel), 2019: \$30,000

Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics Minigrant (with J. Edward Taylor), 2019: \$30,000

Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics Minigrant (with J. Edward Taylor), 2018: \$27,000

Professional Service

Referee, Food Policy

Referee, Migration Studies

Referee, Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy

Referee, Agricultural and Resource Economics Review

Referee, Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund

Discussant, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting

Discussant, UC Davis Migration Research Cluster Workshop

References

Timothy Richards, Marvin and June Morrison Chair of Agribusiness, Morrison School of Agribusiness, W. P. Carey School of Business, Arizona State University
Email: trichards@asu.edu

Pierre Mérel, Professor, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis
Email: merel@primal.ucdavis.edu

J. Edward Taylor, Distinguished Professor, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis
Email: taylor@primal.ucdavis.edu

Giovanni Peri, Professor, Economics, University of California, Davis
Email: gperi@ucdavis.edu

Philip Martin, Professor Emeritus, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis
Email: martin@primal.ucdavis.edu