

AMBIKA CHANDRA

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Texas A&M AgriLife Research, 17360 Coit Road, Dallas, TX 75252 | a-chandra@tamu.edu | 972-952-9218

EDUCATION/TRAINING

2007 PhD Agronomy, The Pennsylvania State University, USA
2003 MS Plant Breeding and Genetics, Punjab Agricultural University, India
2001 BS Agriculture, Punjab Agricultural University, India

POSITIONS AND EMPLOYMENT

2013-present Associate Professor, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, USA
2007-2013 Assistant Professor, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, USA
2003-2007 Graduate Teaching Assistant, The Pennsylvania State University, USA
2001-2003 Graduate Research Assistant, Punjab Agricultural University, India

GRANT ACTIVITY

- Generated **\$11,703,596** in total funding since September 2007, of which **\$4,000,787 is Chandra portion**. 56% of Chandra's portion of funding is from the turfgrass industry.
- Funding sources include **federal, state, corporate, and turfgrass industry**.

PUBLICATION RECORD

- Generated 134 publications including **35 peer-reviewed** research articles, 55 professional society/conference abstracts, and 18 popular articles in the areas of plant breeding, molecular biology, plant pathology, plant physiology, entomology and management.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- Plant patent(s)**: Chandra, A., M.C. Engelke and A.D. Genovesi. St. Augustinegrass Plant named 'DALSA 0605'. Application # 14/544,540. (Plant Patent filed to the USPTO on 01/20/2015).
- Invention Disclosure(s)**: Lead inventor of three plant varieties ('KSUZ 0802' zoysiagrass, 'DALZ 1308' greens type zoysiagrass and 'DALBG 1201' hybrid bluegrass), Plant patents pending. Co-developer for two additional varieties ('Renner' St. Augustinegrass and 'Chisholm' zoysiagrass).

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

- Awarded 2016 Editor's Citation for Excellence**. Recognized by the editorial board of Crop Science for outstanding professional contribution in the oversight of manuscript reviews as an Associate Editor.
- Named Associate Editor** for Crop Science. 2013-2015, re-appointed 2016-2018.
- Served on the scientific review panel** for the 2016 USDA-NIFA Specialty Crops Research Initiative grant program in Washington D.C.
- Elected representative** of the Council of Principal Investigators for Texas A&M AgriLife Research. 2014 to 2017, re-elected 2017-2020.
- My program has pioneered **embryo rescue technique in St. Augustinegrass**.
- Discovered the first sex-determining gene in the grass family Chloridoideae** and elucidated the potential mechanism of fungal induced sex alteration in buffalograss.
- Discovered a new genus of fungi: *Salmacisia* (Order: Tilletiales)**.
- Developed wide hybrids** between wild and cultivated *Brassica* species using **embryo rescue technique** followed by cytological, molecular and morphological validation of hybrids.