

Resume

PRABODH ILLUKPITIYA

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EDUCATION

PhD (Agricultural and Resource Economics), University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA
MS (Management of Natural Resources), Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway
BS (Agriculture) University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

PRESENT EMPLOYMENT

Professor & Chair – Department of Agricultural Business and Education, Tennessee State University (07/01/2023 – present).

Associate Professor – Dept. of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Tennessee State University (07/01/2017 – 06/30/2023).

Assistant Professor – Dept. of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Tennessee State University (08/16/2011 – 06/30-/2017).

Recognitions: Advisor of the Year, College of Agriculture (2024), Certificate of honor, thesis advisors and dissertation committee Chairs, Tennessee State University (2024), Outstanding Teaching Faculty, College of Agriculture (2023), Appreciation of Service to the Department (2022-2023), Program Specialist (Agribusiness), Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES), Dewey University, Puerto Rico (2024), Outstanding Research Faculty, College of Agriculture (2018), Program Volunteer, USAID F2F program in Bangladesh (2016) Visiting Scholar, Dalian Nationalities University, China (2010 & 2012), Outstanding service award, East West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.

PUBLICATIONS *Correspondence author is marked with an asterisk (*)*

1. **Illukpitiya, P***, Yuldashev, F and Nasiru, K. 2022. Designing Harvesting and Hauling Cost Models for Energy Cane Production for Biorefineries. *Energies*, 15: 1-12.
2. **Illukpitiya, P***, Ortiz, A and Tegegne, F. 2022. Ginseng based forest farming as sustainable income diversification opportunity for landowners, *Sustainable Agriculture Research*, 6(1): 25-34.
3. Adhikari, S. and **Illukpitiya, P.*** 2021. Small-scale biodiesel production for on-farm energy security: A sustainable income diversification opportunity for oilseed producers. *Biofuels* 12(6): 605-614.
4. Nwosis, S., **Illukpitiya, P***, Nandwani, D., Arebi, T., and Nwosis, O. 2021. Organic and Conventional sweet potato production in the southeastern of US. A comparative analysis. *Agric & Food Secur* 10, 27:1-9.

5. Yuldashev, F., **Illukpitiya, P***, Tegegne, F., and Ekanem, E. 2020. Techno-economic analysis of plantation biomass production and small-scale wood pellet processing for bioenergy market, *International Wood Products Journal*, 11(4):173-188
6. Alegbeleye, I. D. and **Illukpitiya, P***. 2019. Economic analysis of utilization of corn stover for bioenergy production: Towards diversifying income opportunities for small farmers. *Journal of Technology Innovations in Renewable Energy*, 8: 21-28.
7. Bhavsar, H., Tegegne, F., Baryeh, K., and **Illukpitiya, P.** 2018. Attitudes and willingness to pay more for organic foods by Tennessee consumers. *Journal of Agricultural Sciences 10* (6): 33-39.
8. **Illukpitiya, P.***, Reddy, C. K., and Bansal, A. 2017. Modeling net energy balance of ethanol production from native warm season grasses. *Energy Economics*, 64:346-352.
9. Chen, B. and **Illukpitiya, P.*** 2017. The factors influencing establishment of demonstration farmers' cooperatives in China. *International Journal of Cooperative Studies*, 6(2): 25-32.
10. de Koff, J. P., Ricketts, J. C., Robbins, C., **Illukpitiya, P.**, and Wade, A. 2017. Meeting stakeholder energy technology education needs using a mobile demonstration. *Journal of Extension*, 55(6): 1-12.
11. Jin, Y. and **Illukpitiya, P.*** 2016. Cost minimization of supplying biomass for ethanol biorefineries. *Energy*, 96 (1): 209-214.
12. Bansal, A., **Illukpitiya, P***, Tegegne, F., and Singh, S. P. 2016. Energy efficiency of ethanol production from cellulosic feedstock, *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 58 (1): 141-146.
13. Abimbola, A., **Illukpitiya, P.***, and De Koff, J. P. 2016. Economic analysis of small scale on-farm production of biodiesel and vegetable oil for industrial use from winter oilseed crops. *Journal of Global Agriculture and Ecology*, 5 (1): 19-29.
14. **Illukpitiya, P.***, and Gopalakrishnan, C. 2015. Rural households' decision-making in fuelwood collection: A case study of natural forest margins in the tropics. *Journal of Natural Resources and Policy Research*, 7 (2-3): 125-138.
15. Adhikari, S. and **Illukpitiya, P.*** 2015. Utilization of oilseed crops for on-farm energy security, *Journal of Technology Innovations in Renewable Energy*, 4 (4): 113-119.
16. Abimbola, A., **Illukpitiya, P.***, Ekanem, E., and Tegegne, F. 2014. US consumers' food consumption behavior and policy implications for changing diets, *Journal of Nutritional Ecology and Food Research*. 2: 1-9.
17. Bansal, A., **Illukpitiya, P.***, Singh, S. P., and Tegegne, F., 2013. Economic competitiveness of ethanol production from cellulosic feedstock in Tennessee. *Renewable Energy* (59): 53-57.
18. **Illukpitiya, P.***, Yanagida, J. F., Ogoshi, R., and Uehara, G. 2013. Sugar-ethanol-electricity co-generation in Hawai'i: An application of linear programming (LP) for optimizing Strategies. *Biomass and Bioenergy* (48): 203-212.
19. Ho, T., Yangida, J. F. and **Illukpitiya, P.*** 2013. Factors affecting technical efficiency of small-holder coffee farming in the Krong Ana watershed, Vietnam. *Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology*, 3 (1). 37-49.
20. Singh, S.P., **Illukpitiya, P.**, and Comer, S., 2013. Human capital development for the evolving 21st century bio-based economy in USA: Assessing needs for education, skills and capabilities by agribusiness enterprises. *International Journal of Marketing Financial Services and Management Research* 2 (6): 12-24.

21. **Illukpitiya, P.***, Gopalakrishnan, C., and Ratnayake, R. M. M. B. 2012. Economic competitiveness of biofuel Production from underutilized ethanol feedstock. *Journal of Natural Resources and Policy Research* 4 (2): 91-102.
22. Tran, N., **Illukpitiya, P.***, Yanagida, J. F., and Ogoshi, R. 2011. Optimizing biofuel production: an economic analysis for selected biofuel feedstock production in Hawaii. *Biomass and Bioenergy*, 35: 1756-1764.

PRESENTATIONS: *Academic advisor for student presentations are marked with an asterisk (*)*

1. **Illukpitiya, P**, Tran, DL, Kafle, S; Parks, S and Sharma, C. 2025. Assessing the Impact of Consumption Behavior Education on Household Food Security: A Dynamic Modeling Approach. Accepted for the presentation at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 1-4, 2025, Irving, Texas.
2. Tran, DL, Kafle, S; Parks, S; **Illukpitiya, P**, Nguyen, M and Tran, L. 2025 Household Green Consumption Behaviors: An Analysis of Factors Influencing Purchase Decision for Locally Grown Organic Food in Tennessee. Accepted for the presentation at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 1-4, 2025, Irving, Texas.
3. **Illukpitiya, P**, Tran, L, Tiwari, S* and Bhandari, D*. 2024. Maximizing ROI: Analyzing investment opportunities in alfalfa hay and pellet production for hay growers. Paper accepted for the presentation at Western Agricultural Economics Annual Meeting.
4. **Illukpitiya, P**, Tran, DL, Khanal, A and Lawani, A. 2024. Resilience capacity of rural households post COVID-19 pandemic in Tennessee. Poster presented at the 21st Biennial ARD research symposium, Nashville, TN April 6-9, 2024.
5. Tran, DL, **Illukpitiya, P.**, Khanal, A and Lawani, A. 2024. Changes in rural households' food-consumption patterns coping with food security post COVID-19 pandemic in Tennessee. Poster presented at the 21st Biennial ARD research symposium, Nashville, TN April 6-9, 2024.
6. Macarious, J* and **Illukpitiya, P**. 2024. Feeding the Future: Unleashing the Power of Fertilizers in Agricultural Intensification Across Nations. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, March 25-29, 2024.
7. McWilliams, C* and **Illukpitiya, P**. 2024. Unveiling the Global Food Insecurity Crisis: A Comparative Analysis of Prevalence in Developed and Developing Countries. Poster presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, March 25-29, 2024 (**3rd Place, Undergraduate Poster Category**).
8. **Illukpitiya, P**, Tran, D and Yuldashev, F*. Designing hauling and harvesting costs of energy cane for a vertically integrated bioenergy farm. Paper presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 2024, Atlanta, GA.
9. Bhandari, D,* **Illukpitiya, P**, Tran, D. Examining food buyer's willingness to participate in blockchain system. Paper presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 2024, Atlanta, GA.
10. Tiwari, S,* **Illukpitiya, P**, Tegegne, F, Hui, D. Economic analysis of the prospects of mung bean cultivation in the Southeastern Region. Paper presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 2024, Atlanta, GA.

11. Tran, DL, **Illukpitiya, P.**, Nguyen, MT, Dang, ,TT. 2024. Factors affecting the adoption of asparagus farming practices employing the VietGAP standard guidelines in Vietnam. Paper presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 2024, Atlanta, GA.
12. Bhandari, D,* **Illukpitiya, P***, Tiwari, S and Tran, DL. Assessment of Economic and Environmental Impact of Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) in Agricultural Processing and Manufacturing Sectors in Tennessee. Poster presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 2024, Atlanta, GA.
13. Tiwari, S,* **Illukpitiya, P***, Pitchay, D. Bhandari, D, Tran, DL. Estimating Economic Benefits of Mung Bean as a Cover Crop. Poster presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 2024, Atlanta, GA.
14. Bhandari, D, **Illukpitiya, P***, and Nasiru, K. Promoting smart contracts for specialty crops: Examining buyers' attitudes and willingness to participate in blockchain system. Submitted for the presentation at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 4-7, 2023, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
15. Tiwari, S, **Illukpitiya, P***, Tegegne, F, Gurung, S, and Hui, D. Alternative crop for small and medium sized farmers: Comparative economic analysis of mung bean production in southeastern US. Submitted for the presentation at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 4-7, 2023, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
16. **Illukpitiya, P.** and Bhandari, D. Examining buyers' attitudes towards participating in blockchain system. Paper to be present at Food Distribution Research Society Annual Meeting, October 23-26, 2022, Pensacola, FL.
17. Nasiru, K., **Illukpitiya, P***, and Kennedy, S. Economic potential for production of biomass sorghum as a bioenergy feedstock in southeastern U.S. Presentation at Southern Agricultural Economics Association, Annual Meeting, New Orleans, February 13-15, 2022.
18. **Illukpitiya, P** and Nasiru, K. 2022. Economic impact of COVID-19 in Agri-Food supply chain. Paper presented at Association of Research Directors Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, April 2022.
19. Ajumobi, B., and **Illukpitiya, P***. Resilience of local food supply chain during pandemic: An examination of opportunities and constraints of marketing local foods. Paper presented at Tennessee Academy of Science, Annual Meeting, November 6, 2021.
20. Nasiru, K. and Illukpitiya, P. Diversification opportunities for bioenergy feedstock production in southeastern region. Paper presented at Tennessee Academy of Science, Annual Meeting, November 6, 2021.
21. Wilson, D., **Illukpitiya, P***., and Hui, D. Incorporating mung bean in farm production systems. A comparative economic analysis. Abstract submitted for the presentation at Tennessee Academy of Science, Annual Meeting, November 6, 2021.
22. **Illukpitiya, P.**, Ortiz, A., and Tegegne, F. Ginseng based forest farming as sustainable income diversification opportunity for landowners. Paper submitted for the presentation at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 1-4, 2020, Louisville, KY.

23. **Illukpitiya, P.**, Robertson, D., and Tegegne, F. Comparative economic analysis of alfalfa hay vs pellet production. Poster submitted for the presentation at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 1-4, 2020, Louisville, KY.
24. Smith, R., **Illukpitiya, P***., Bullock, F., and Young, D. 2019. Educating Beginner Farmers: Quantification of Economic Risk in Selected Agricultural Enterprises. *Association of 1890 Research Directors (ARD) symposium*, Jacksonville, FL. March 29-April 03, 2019.
25. **Illukpitiya, P.** and de Koff, J. P. Sustainable utilization of winter oilseed crops for bio-based industry: Success and failures. Poster presented at the 2018 Engineers for Sustainable World Annual Conference, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta. April 5-8, 2018.
26. **Illukpitiya, P.** and Khanal, P. Understanding consumption behavior to promote locally grown fresh produce farms and agritourism. Paper presented at the *4th World Research Summit for Tourism and Hospitality*, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management, Orlando, USA December 8-11, 2017.
27. **Illukpitiya, P.**, Yuldashev, F. and de Koff, J. Risk analysis of on-farm industrial oil production from winter oilseed crops. Paper presented at the at the US Society for Ecological Economics biennial conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 25-28, 2017.
28. Adikari, S., **Illukpitiya, P***., Tegegne, F. and Ekanem, E. Comparative economic analysis of on-farm biodiesel production from summer oilseed crops. Paper submitted for the presentation at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 4-7, 2017, Mobile, Alabama.
29. **Illukpitiya, P.**, Alegbeleye, I., Ekanem, E., and Tegegne, F. Economic viability of utilization of agricultural waste for bioenergy production. Poster presented at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, February 4-7, 2017, Mobile, Alabama.
30. Yuldashev, F., **Illukpitiya, P*** and Tegegne, F. Economics of utilization of lignocellulosic biomass from short rotation woody crop of sweetgum for bioethanol production. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, April 17-20, 2017.
31. **Khanal, P.** and **Illukpitiya, P.*** 2016. Factors governing consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, March 30, 2016.
32. Chawla, S., de Koff, J., and **Illukpitiya, P.** 2016. Evaluation of industrial oilseed crops for biodiesel production in Tennessee. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, March 30, 2016.
33. de Koff, J. P. and **Illukpitiya, P.** 2015. Economics of Small-Scale Biodiesel Production. TSU Cooperative Extension Service. In-service Training Webinar, 26 January 2015, Nashville, TN.
34. Adhikari, S., **Illukpitiya, P***., Tegegne, F., Ekanem, E., and Pokharel, B. 2015. Economic Analysis of production of biodiesel from summer oil seed crops for small farmers. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, March 30, 2015 .
35. Alegbeleye, I. and., **Illukpitiya, P***., Tegegne, F., and Ekanem, E. 2015. Economic

- analysis of production of biofuel and electricity generation from corn stover for small farmers. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, April 01, 2015.
36. Scalf, B. and **Illukpitiya, P***. 2015. Meeting consumer demand for organic food: An investment opportunities for nature based food enterprises. Poster presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, April 01, 2015.
 37. Ekanem, E., Mafuyai, M., Tegegne, F., and **Illukpitiya, P**. 2015. An analysis of meat processing facilities in Tennessee. Paper presented at the Southern Rural Sociology Association Annual Meeting. Atlanta, Georgia February 1-3, 2015.
 38. Implementing an accessible online marketing tool for small and mid-sized farmers. Mafuyai, M., Ekanem, E., Tegegne, F., Peischel, A., Bullock, R. and **Illukpitiya, P.**, Poster presented at the Southern Rural Sociology Association Annual Meeting. Atlanta, Georgia February 1-3, 2015.
 39. Singh, S.P. and **Illukpitiya, P**. 2014. Food Supply Chains and Emergence of Organized Retailing. Program Abstract: Biennial 1890 ARD Research Symposium, Jacksonville, April 7-10, 2014.
 40. **Illukpitiya, P.**, de Koff, J., and Singh, S. 2014. Economics of on-farm Biodiesel Production from Winter Oilseed Crops. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposia, Tennessee State University, April 04, 2014.
 41. Bansal, A., **Illukpitiya, P***, Singh, S. P., and Tegegne, F. 2014. Energy Efficiency of Producing Ethanol From Switchgrass and *Miscanthus* in Tennessee Paper presented at the Annual University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, April, 2014 (**3rd place award for science category**).
 42. Jin, Y., **Illukpitiya, P***, Singh, S. P., and Tegegne, F. 2014. Optimal Biomass Harvesting and Hauling Cost Model for Ethanol Biorefineries. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, March 31, 2014.
 43. Abimbola, A., **Illukpitiya, P***, Singh, S.P and Ekanem, E. 2014. Trend Analysis of American Consumers Food Consumption Patterns by Cultural, Social Groups. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, April 01, 2014.
 44. Singh, K., **Illukpitiya, P.**, Singh, S. P. and Tegegne, F. 2014. Economic Analysis of Bioenergy Production from Paulownia. Paper presented at the University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, April 01, 2014.
 45. **Illukpitiya, P**. Discussant in Ecosystem Services Forum Western Agricultural Economic Association - Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA. June 30-July 04, 2013.
 46. Bansal, A., **Illukpitiya, P***, Singh, S. P., and Tegegne, F. 2013. Economic competitiveness of ethanol production from Switchgrass and Miscanthus in Mid-South Region. Poster presented at the Annual University Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, April, 2013 (**3rd Place Award for Science Category**).
 47. Bansal, A., **Illukpitiya, P***, Singh, S. P., and Tegegne, F. 2012. Economic Competitiveness of ethanol production from cellulosic feedstock in Tennessee. Paper presented at the Sun Grant National Conference, New Orleans. October 3-5, 2012

MONOGRAPHS/ ARTICLES

1. de Koff, J. P. and **Illukpitiya, P.** 2017. Industrial Oilseed Crops for Tennessee. College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension, ANR-B15-2017
2. **Illukpitiya, P.** and de Koff J. 2014. Economics of on-farm biodiesel production. College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension, ANR-B11-2014
3. **Illukpitiya, P.** Samonte, S. O. P. B. and Wilson, L. T. 2009. Aerobic rice: Production inputs and breeding selection criteria. *Texas Rice* Vol. IX (6). Texas AgriLife Research.
4. Yanagida, J. F. **Illukpitiya, P.** and Tran, N. 2008. Statewide multi-fuel biofuels production assessment: crop assessment- Task B. College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Manoa (submitted to Black & Veatch, August 24, 2008).
5. Ogoshi, R., Yanagida, J. F., Turn, S., **Illukpitiya, P.**, Uehara, G., Brewbaker, J., Carpenter, J., and Kinoshita, C. 2008. Biofuel and Crop Assessment. College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Manoa (submitted to Dole Food Company and Castle & Cooke, Inc. May 15, 2008).
6. He, S. J., Yuan, S., **Illukpitiya, P.**, and Yuen, S. 2007. Economic well-being in Hawaii: Family and individual self-sufficiency. A UW report. Honolulu, Hawaii: University of Hawaii at Manoa, Center on the Family.
7. He, S. J., Yuan, S., **Illukpitiya, P.**, and Yuen, S. 2007. Technical notes for economic well-being in Hawaii: Family and individual self-sufficiency. A UW report. Honolulu, Hawaii: University of Hawaii at Manoa, Center on the Family.

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. **Illukpitiya, P.** and Khanal, P. 2016. Consumer perceptions of organic products and product marketing (ch 14). Sustainable development and biodiversity D. Nandwani (Ed.), Springer
2. **Illukpitiya, P.** and Ortiz, A. 2015. Comparative analysis of economic and social status of native Hawaiians & Alaskans. Indigenous and Native Studies J. Somasundara (Ed.), University of Gombe, Nigeria
3. Ogoshi, R., Turano, B., Uehara, G., Yanagida, J. F., **Illukpitiya, P.**, Brewbaker, J., and Carpenter, J. 2010. Evaluation of Cellulosic feedstock for biofuel production (Ch. 7). Khanal, S.K. et al. (Eds.), Biofuel and bioenergy from biowastes and biomass, American Society of Civil Engineers. Reston, VA.

DISSERTATIONS/THESES – THESIS CHAIR

1. Designing smart contracts: Buyer attitudes towards participating in Blockchain Technology. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, Summer, 2024. Devashish Bhandari (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**).
2. Economics of mungbean production in southern USA MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, Summer 2024. Satya Tiwari (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**).
3. An examination of opportunities and constraints of marketing local foods in Tennessee. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, Fall, 2021, Blessing Ajumbobi (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)

4. Analysis of household's vulnerability of food insecurity and its including factors in Tennessee. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, Fall, 2021, Tyrell Doss (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
5. Economic Analysis of investment opportunities for alfalfa pellet production. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, May, 2020, Desiree Robertson (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
6. An Economic Analysis of production of American ginseng in the Southeastern Region. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, May, 2018, Avis Ortiz (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
7. Economic analysis of plantation biomass production from sweetgum for co-firing with coal in electricity generation. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, May, 2018, Firuz Yuldashev (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
8. An examination of social media as a marketing tool for Tennessee small farmers. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, May, 2017, George Davis (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
9. Analysis of US consumer demand and consumption patterns for fresh food. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, August, 2016, Pramatta Khanal (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
10. Economic analysis of utilization of corn stover for bioenergy production. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, August, 2016, Ibukun Alegbeleye (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
11. Comparative economic analysis of on-farm biodiesel production from soybean and sunflower under small scale setting. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, December 2015, Suraj Adhikari (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
12. Economic competitiveness of Paulownia as a feedstock for ethanol production. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, December, 2015, Kuldeep Sing (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
13. Cost analysis of harvesting, hauling and storage of switchgrass for ethanol biorefineries. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, May 2015, Yayuan Jin (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
14. Economic Analysis of small scale on-farm biodiesel production from winter oil seed crops. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, May 2015, Abimbola Akinya (Thesis Chair, **P. Illukpitiya**)
15. Economic viability and energy efficiency of ethanol production from switchgrass and miscanthus in Tennessee. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, May 2014, Ankit Bansal (Thesis Chair – **P. Illukpitiya**)

DISSERTATIONS/THESES – Committee Member

1. Impact of climate-smart agricultural practices on nitrous oxide emission from corn and soybean fields. PhD Dissertation, Avedananda Ray, Tennessee State University (External Committee Member, P. Illukpitiya). In progress
2. Choice of marketing channels, constraints, and the effect on the financial performance of small farms in Tennessee. MS Thesis, Purushotam Dungana, Tennessee State University (Thesis Committee Member, P. Illukpitiya). Summer 2024.
3. Land access and succession planning among beginning, young and minority farmers in the state of Tennessee. MS Thesis, Christian Smith, Tennessee State University (Thesis Committee Member, **P. Illukpitiya**). Expected Graduation, Summer 2024.

4. Agricultural Insurance Adoption: A Micro-level Analysis in the Context of Tennessee Small Farmers. MS Thesis, Sujan Ghimire, Tennessee State University (Thesis Committee Member, **P. Illukpitiya**). Expected graduation: Fall, 2024.
5. Consumer Willingness to Pay for Hemp-based Products. MS Thesis, Jaden Hall, Tennessee State University (Thesis Committee Member, **P. Illukpitiya**). Expected graduation: Summer 2024.
6. Influence of plant nutrients on selected food crops (*Solanum lycopersicum*, *Vaccinium corymbosum*, *Citrus hystrix* *Rubus* species). PhD Dissertation, Tennessee State University, 2024, Steven Kennedy (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**).
7. Best management practices of nutrient management for container grown horticultural species using 4R Nutrient stewardship. PhD Dissertation, Tennessee State University, 2024, Sunil Gurung (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**).
8. Economic Contributions of local food systems: A Case Study of Tennessee. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, summer 2021, Ajai Oluwatoni (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
9. Factors Influencing the Adoption of Agritourism among Small Farmers in Tennessee. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, spring 2021, Reginald Holland (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
10. Blue growth and developing countries: Role of consumer preference for eco labels. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, spring 2021, Renu Ojay (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
11. Economic impacts of forestry and forest product industries in Tennessee. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, August, 2019, Ummey Honey (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
12. Financing your agricultural farm: Credit constraint, financing sources, and farm financial performance of small farmers in Tennessee. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, December, 2018, Omobolaji Omobitan (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
13. Food safety in Saudi Arabia: An examination of perceptions and attitudes. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, December, 2017, Faisal Almotari (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
14. An evaluation of online marketing as an option for goat meat marketing in Tennessee. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, December, 2016, Mikhail Miller (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
15. Evaluation of goat meat consumption in Tennessee. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, December, 2016, Faith Sang (Thesis committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
16. Information Technology Use by Small Farmers in Tennessee. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, December, 2016, James Warimu (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
17. Improving organic sweet potato (*Ipomea batata*) production, nutritional and cost benefit analysis in Tennessee. PhD Dissertation. Tennessee State University, August, 2017, Sochinwechi Nwosisi (PhD Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
18. Influence of sub-optimal macro & micro nutrient concentrations – growth and development of cucumbers and broccoli. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, May, 2016, Garrett Morris (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
19. Consumer preferences and willingness to pay more for organic foods by Tennessee consumers. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, August 2015, Kofi Baryeh (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)

20. Meat goat enterprise: Alternative source of income for Tennessee small farmers. MS Thesis, Tennessee State University, August 2015, Azubuike Ezeadum (Thesis Committee Member, **P. Illukpitiya**)
21. An Examination of the Tennessee Goat Meat Industry: Structure, Performance and Growth Opportunities. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, August 2015, Allan Denkins (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
22. Tennessee small farmer marketing problems. Evidence on the mitigating effects of agricultural cooperatives. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, December 2014, Oladayo Onosa (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
23. Tennessee goat meat processing. Opportunities and constraints. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, August 2014, Clarence Pongo (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
24. Impact of sub-optimal and supra optimal supply of macro and micro nutrients on romaine lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) and coffee (*Coffea arabica*) plant growth. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, August 2014, Grija Vijayan (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
25. Assessing factors influencing energy use and profitability of greenhouse operations in Tennessee, MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, spring 2014, Krisdan Ingrun (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
26. Bio-products: Consumers' perception and buying behavior. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, summer 2013, Swetha Bangari (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)
27. Green products and green marketing: Factors affecting consumers' purchases of green products. MS Thesis. Tennessee State University, spring 2013, Rajyalaxmi Donikini (Thesis Committee Member – **P. Illukpitiya**)

RESEARCH GRANTS

A. *EXTERNALLY FUNDED*

1. Fostering Sustainable Agriculture in Vietnam: Empowering Limited Resource Farmers to Improve Productivity, Increase Supplemental Incomes, Access to Local and Global Markets, and Reduce Environmental. Tran, D.L (PI), Co-PIs: **Illukpitiya, P** and Pitchay, D.
Funding Agency: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service – Scientific Cooperation Research Program
Funding Amount: US\$49,986
Project Duration: 08/01/2024 – 07/31/2026
2. Resilience capacity of rural household's post COVID-19 pandemic in Tennessee: Food security policy implications. Tran, D.L (PI), Co-PIs: **Illukpitiya, P**, Khanal, A and Lawani, A.
Funding Agency: USDA-AFRI
Funding Amount: \$289065
Project duration: 07/01/2024 – 6/30/2024
3. Sustainable Herbaceous Energy Crop Production in the Southeast United States. Wilson, L.T (PI – Texas A&M) Co-PIs **Illukpitiya, P** (TSU), Fugan, D & Yan, Y, Rooney, W (Texas A&M), Baldwin, B, Morrison, J (MSU), Ana, H (USDA-ARS – Houston, TX), Jiffon, J (USDA-ARS – Weslaco, TX, Odero, C.D, Wright, A (University of Florida)
Funding Agency: US Department of Energy (DOE)

- Funding Amount: \$5,000,000 TSU Sub-Award: \$249,975 – Illukpitiya, P (PI):
Project duration: 10/01/2018 - 08/31/2023
4. Developing Mungbean (*Vigna radiata*) (L) as Alternative Crop for Small and Medium-sized Farmers through Research and Outreach. **Illukpitiya, P.**, (PI)
Funding Agency: USDA-AFRI
Funding Amount: \$498,000
Project duration: 06/15/2020 - 06/14/2023
 5. Open Source Market Consortium for Specialty Crops. **Illukpitiya, P.** (PI)
Funding Agency: Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research
Funding Amount: \$189,026
Project duration: 01/01/2022 - 12/31/2024
 6. Enhancing Crop Productivity and Reducing Nitrous Oxide Emissions in Corn and Soybean Cropping Systems. Hui, D., (PI) Co-PIs: Li, J., **Illukpitiya, P (TSU)**, Tian, H (AU); Fay, P., Smith, D. (USDA):
Funding Agency: USDA-NIFA
Funding amount:\$502,853
Project duration: 03/2022 - 02/2025
 7. Enhancing food security, community and rural development for BFRDP program. Omondai, E., (PI), **Illukpitiya, P** and Reynolds, R (Co-PIs).
Funding Agency: USDA-NIFA
Funding amount: \$201,938
Project Duration: 08/2020 – 02/2022
 8. Promoting BMPs in the nursery production systems for the Mid-South United States by providing planning and technical assistance (Pitchay, D (PI), Co-PIs: **Illukpitiya, P.**, Witcher, A., Rakshit, S and Pokharel, B).
Funding Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Funding amount: \$1,585,023
Project Duration: 10/01/2016 – 9/30/2019
 9. Children eating well (CHEW) smartphone application for WIC families (Hull, P (PD), Co-PI: Briley, C, Collaborators: **Illukpitiya, P**, et al.).
Funding Agency: USDA-AFRI
Funding Amount: \$5,000,000.
Duration: 3/2017-3/2021
 10. Enhancing Food Security, Community and Rural Development and Sustainability for Beginning Farmers, Ranchers and Returning Veterans and their families in Tennessee (Bullock, F, Reynolds, R (PIs), Co-PIs: **Illukpitiya, P**, Clardy, Z, Ekanem, E and Stribling, F).
Funding Agency: USDA-NIFA
Funding Amount: \$470,832
Project Duration: 10/2016 – 09/2019

11. Enhancing economic benefits & sustainability of small business in Tennessee through enterprise diversification & Agritourism (Khanal, A (PI). Co-PIs: **Illukpitiya, P.**, Tegegne, F).
 Funding Agency: USDA-NIFA
 Funding Amount: \$230,000
 Project Duration: 04/2018 – 03/2021
12. An Integrated Approach to Mitigate Antimicrobial Resistance and Establishing Stewardship Programs in Small and Medium-Sized Farms (Kilonzo-Nthenge, A (PI), Co-Pis: Reginals, A., Nahashon,S., **Illukpitiya, P**, S., Broyles, T., Archer, R., and Ricketts, J)
 Funding Agency: USDA-AFRI
 Funding Amount: \$499,000
 Project Duration: 2018-2021
13. Sustainable utilization of winter oilseed crops in small-farm production systems to meet the needs of biodiesel (**Illukpitiya, P.- (PI)**, de Koff, J., Tegegne, F., Ekanem, E., Patras, A., Pitchay, D).
 Funding Agency: USDA-NIFA
 Funding amount:\$296,441
 Project duration: 09/01/2014 - 08/31/2017
14. An economic analysis of retail food environment and demand for fruits and vegetables in an Urban region in Tennessee (**Illukpitiya, P (PI)**, Khanal, A & Lim, K)
 Funding Agency: USDA-NIFA
 Funding amount:\$110,000
 Project duration: 09/01/2016 - 08/31/2017
15. Issues and Challenges in Sustainable Agricultural Research, Extension and Education for Women Farmers in Bangladesh (Nandawani, D (PI), Co-PIs Comer, S, **Illukpitiya, P**).
 Funding Agency: USAID
 Funding amount: \$150,000
 Project duration: 04/1015 – 03/2016
16. Implementing an Accessible Online Marketing Tool for Small and Mid-Sized Farmers. (Ekanem, E (PI), Co-PIs: Tegegne, F., **Illukpitiya, P.**)
 Funding Agency: USDA-AFRI
 Funding amount:\$499,000
 Project duration: 09/01/2014 - 08/31/2017
17. Building Extension capacity using a mobile biodiesel production platform (de Koff, J (PI), Co-PIs, **Illukpitiya, P.** ; Ricketts, J. ; Robbins, C. ; Wade, A)
 Funding Agency: USDA-NIFA
 Funding amount:\$249,000
 Project duration: 09/01/2012 - 08/31/2015

B. FORMULA FUNDED GRANTS

1. Assessment of production and costs efficiency of farm enterprises in Tennessee using stochastic frontier approach (**Illukpitiya, P**). Research project funded by Evans Allen Program: 10/2023 – 09/2026)
2. Economic impact of Covid-19 on Agrifood system in Tennessee (**Illukpitiya, P**). Research project funded by Evans Allen Program: 10/2010 – 09/2023)
3. Creating Economic and Business Opportunities for Small and Medium Sized Farmers through Integration of Alfalfa as Cover Crop (**Illukpitiya, P**). Research project funded by Evans Allen Program: 10/2017 – 09/2020)
4. Economics of short rotation woody biomass for bioenergy production (**Illukpitiya, P** Tegegne, F). Research project funded by Evans Allen program: 10/2014 – 09/ 2017.
5. Economic feasibility, energy efficiency and marketing of biomass feedstock production from C-4 grass species in Tennessee (**Illukpitiya, P**). Research project funded by Evans Allen program: 10/2011 – 09/ 2014.

SCHOLARSHIPS, LEADERSHIP, CITIZENSHIP

1. Focus Group Leader – Agribusiness – 2019 - 2023
2. Academic Advisor – Agribusiness – since 2021
3. Faculty Senate Representative, April, 2018 – 2020
4. Committee Member - Curriculum Review Committee: since 2014-2023
5. College Representative, Center for Economic Development and Entrepreneurship (CEDE), College of Business, TSU (2015-2020)
6. Faculty Senate Representative, April, 2018 – 2019
7. Students Appeal Committee – 2016-2018
8. Search Committee Chair (Assistant/Associate professor positions in Agriculture marketing, Consumer economics, International trade, Agribusiness Management and Academic 9-month teaching)
9. Lead in developing MS degree program in Agricultural Business and Leadership (2023)
10. Committee Member – International Affairs and Outreach: Serving since 2018
11. Committee Member - Curriculum Review Committee: Serving since 2014
12. Mentor - Summer apprenticeship program - 2017-2023