

Dennis J. Werner

Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor Emeritus
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Education/Training:

Michigan State University, PhD, Horticulture, 1979
Michigan State University, MS, Horticulture, 1975
Pennsylvania State University, BS, Horticulture, 1973

Academic Positions and Employment:

Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor, 2013-present, NCSU.
JC Raulston Distinguished Professor, 2007-2015, NCSU, Department of Horticultural Science
Director, JC Raulston Arboretum, 2005-2008, NCSU, Department of Horticultural Science
Full Professor, 1988-present, NCSU, Department of Horticultural Science
Associate Professor, 1983-1988, NCSU, Department of Horticultural Science
Assistant Professor, 1979-1983, NCSU, Department of Horticultural Science

Present Appointment

50% appointment on Phased Retirement. 26% Teaching: 24% Research

Areas of Specialization

Peach breeding and genetics, with emphasis on gene linkage and mapping, architectural mutants, late flowering, and specialty fruit types. Ornamental plant breeding and genetics, with emphasis on *Cercis* (redbud) and *Buddleja* (butterfly bush).

Selected Peer-Reviewed Publications (71 total)

- Roberts, D.J., D.J. Werner, P.A. Wadl, and R.N. Trigiano. 2015. Inheritance and Allelism Studies in eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis* L.). *Horticulture Research* 2, 15049; doi:10.1038/hortres.2015.49.
- Brown, A. G. Yousef, K. Chebrolu, P. Perkins-Veazie, D. Werner, M. Parker, and K. Gasic. 2014. Variation in carotenoids and polyphenolics in peach (*Prunus persica* L.) and implications for breeding for modified phytochemical profiles. *J.A.S.H.S.* 139: 676-686.
- Chavez, J. , T. Beckman, D. Werner, and J. Chaparro. 2014. Genetic diversity in peach [*Prunus persica* (L.) Batsch] at the University of Florida: past, present and future. *Tree Genetics and Genomes.* 10: 1399-1417.
- Wadl, Philip A., Robert N. Trigiano, Dennis J. Werner, Margaret R. Pooler, and Timothy A. Rinehart. 2012. Simple sequence repeat markers (SSR's) from *Cercis canadensis* show wide cross-species transfer and utility in genetic studies. *J.A.S.H.S.* 137: 189-201.
- Werner, D.J. and L.K. Snelling. 2011. 'Purple Haze', 'Miss Molly', and 'Ice Chip' *Buddleja*. *HortScience* 46: 1330-1332.
- Werner, D.J. and L.K. Snelling. 2010. 'Ruby Falls' and 'Merlot' redbuds. *HortScience* 45: 146-147.
- Werner, D.J. and L.K. Snelling. 2009. 'Blue Chip' and 'Miss Ruby' *Buddleja*. *HortScience* 44:841-842.
- Barb, J.G. , D.J. Werner, and S. Tallury. 2008. Cytogenetic characterization and nuclear DNA content characterization of diploid and tetraploid forms of stokes aster. *HortScience.* 43:2005-2012.
- Barb, J.G., D.J. Werner and R.J. Griesbach. 2008. Genetics and biochemistry of flower color in stokes aster. *J.A.S.H.S.* 133:1-10.

- Olsen, R, T. Ranney, and D. Werner. 2006. Fertility and inheritance of variegation and purple foliage across a polyploid series in *Hypericum androsaemum*. J.A.S.H.S. 131:725-730.
- Beckman, T.G., J. Rodriguez Alcazar, W.B. Sherman, and D.J. Werner. 2005. Evidence for qualitative suppression of red skin color in peach. HortScience 40:523-524.
- Werner, D.J. and J.X. Chaparro. 2005. Genetic Interactions of the Pillar (Columnar) and Weeping Genotypes in Peach. HortScience 40:18-20.

Cultivar Releases

Peaches

- 'Contender'
- 'Carolina Belle'
- 'Intrepid' (U.S. Plant Patent 12,357)
- 'China Pearl' (U.S. Plant Patent 11,914)
- 'Challenger' (U.S. Plant Patent 12,375)
- 'Galactica' (U.S. Plant Patent 17,118)
- 'Carolina Gold' (U.S. Plant Patent 17,780)

Ornamental Peaches

- 'Corinthian Rose' (U.S. Plant Patent 11,564)
- 'Corinthian White' (U.S. Plant Patent 11,493)
- 'Corinthian Mauve' (U.S. Plant Patent 11,576)
- 'Corinthian Pink' (U.S. Plant Patent 11,902)

Redbuds

- 'Merlot' (U.S. Plant Patent 22,279)
- 'Ruby Falls' (U.S. Plant Patent 22,097)
- 'Whitewater' (U.S. Plant Patent 23,998)
- 'Pink Pom Poms' (U.S. Plant Patent Applied For)

Butterfly Bushes

- 'Blue Chip' (U.S. Plant Patent 19,991)
- 'Miss Ruby' (U.S. Plant Patent 19,950)
- 'Miss Molly' (U.S. Plant Patent 23,425)
- 'Purple Haze' (U.S. Plant Patent 24,514)
- 'Lilac Chip' (U.S. Plant Patent 24,016)
- 'Ice Chip' (U.S. Plant Patent 24,015)
- 'Blue Chip Jr' (U.S. Plant Patent Applied For)
- 'Pink Micro Chip' (U.S. Plant Patent Applied For)

Courses Taught (Last 5 Years)

HS301, Plant Propagation, Fall semester

HS301L, Plant Propagation Laboratory, Fall semester

HS302, Gardening with Herbaceous Perennials, Spring semester

External and Internal Research Support (Last 5 Years)

Werner, Dennis J. 2009-2016. Development of Improved Cultivars of Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) Demonstrating Novel Ornamental Characters. \$36,000 from J. Frank Schmidt Family Charitable Foundation.

Werner, Dennis J. 2009-2015. Breeding and Genetics of Herbaceous and Woody Ornamental Landscape Plants. \$26,000 from the North Carolina Nursery and Landscape Association.

Werner, Dennis J. 2009-2013. Breeding and Genetics of *Buddleja*. \$20,000 from Spring Meadow Nursery.

Werner, Dennis J. 2015. Breeding and Development of New Cultivars of redbud, sweetgum, *Musa*, and other Ornamental Trees and Shrubs. \$19,800 from Star Roses and Plants.

Recent Professional Memberships

American Society of Horticultural Science, Gamma Sigma Delta, Pi Alpha Xi, JC Raulston Arboretum

Honors/Awards

Kim Powell Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Horticulture Industry, from the North Carolina Nursery and Landscape Association, 2015.

Alumni Association Distinguished Undergraduate Professor, North Carolina State University, 2014

Outstanding Fruit Cultivar Award ('Contender' peach), American Society for Horticultural Science, 2014 (Dennis Werner, James Ballington, and David Ritchie)

Outstanding Ornamentals Publication Award, American Society for Horticulture Science, 2013 (Phillip Wadl, Robert Trigiano, Dennis Werner, Margaret Pooler, and Tim Rinehart).

Distinguished Achievement Award for Nursery Crops, American Society for Horticultural Science, 2013.

Luther Burbank Award for extraordinary achievement in plant breeding. American Horticulture Society. 2013.

Distinguished Educator Award from the Southern Region ASHS. 2013.

Fellow, American Society for Horticultural Science, 2011.

American Society for Horticultural Science Cross-Commodity Publication Award for 2009 (Jessica Barb, Dennis Werner and Robert Griesbach).

Krezdorn Award for Excellence in Doctoral Research from the Southern Region ASHS. 2009.

Awarded to graduate student Dr. Jessica Barb.

NCSU Outstanding Teacher Award. 1999, 2004.

Outstanding Academic Advisor in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. 1999.

Recent Graduate Training Experience

Barb, Jessica. PhD. Biochemical, genetic, and cytogenetic studies of *Stokesia laevis* (Stokes Aster). Completed 2009.

Roberts, David. 2015. Genome Size Determination, and Inheritance and Allelism of Morphological Traits in *Cercis*.

Other Pertinent Information

Associate Editor, HortScience, 1999-2000.

14-gallon milestone blood donor, Wake Blood Plan, Raleigh, NC.

Endowed an undergraduate student scholarship in the Department of Horticultural Science in 2009.