

SAMYAM SHRESTHA

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EDUCATION

University of Georgia Ph.D., Agricultural and Applied Economics <i>Summer School, Economics of Migration, UC Davis Global Migration Center, 2023</i>	2020 – 2025 (<i>Expected</i>)
Montana State University M.S., Applied Economics	2017 – 2019
Kathmandu University Bachelor of Business Information Systems	2009 – 2013

JOB MARKET PAPER

Trade Effects of Immigration Enforcement: Evidence from U.S. Labor-Intensive Agriculture [Draft]

Abstract: U.S. labor-intensive fruit and vegetable (FV) production has declined in recent decades, while imports have significantly increased. During this time, the U.S. farm labor markets, heavily reliant on foreign-born workers, have tightened, with producers reporting labor shortages and rising wages. This study examines if intensified immigration enforcement in the U.S. interior, a supply-side shock to farm labor availability, affects FV trade domestically and internationally. First, we demonstrate that a state's FV production decreases with the intensification of immigration enforcement. Using reduced-form gravity models with state panel trade flow data, we then show that immigration enforcement reduces FV exports to other U.S. states and foreign trading partners. To mitigate the reduction in local FV supply, states with higher enforcement increase their imports from lower-enforcement states. However, we do not find evidence that changing labor dynamics contribute to the rise in international FV imports. Trade agreements and lower production costs at the origin may explain this pattern.

WORKING PAPERS

Labor Market Effects of the Venezuelan Refugee Crisis in Brazil (with Hugo Sant'Anna) [*R&R Journal of Economic Geography*]

Public Perceptions on Undocumented Agricultural Workers (with Benjamin Campbell, Vitalis Othuon, William Secor, and Daniel Tregeagle)

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

Immigration Enforcement and Business Dynamics (with Hugo Sant'Anna)

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

2024 Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Conference, Washington, DC	Fall 2024
2024 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), New Orleans, LA	Summer 2024
2023 Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA	Fall 2023
UGA AAEC Departmental Seminar	Fall 2023
2023 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), Washington, DC	Summer 2023
UGA Development Workshop	Spring 2023
2022 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), Anaheim, CA	Summer 2022
UGA Development Workshop	Spring 2022

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant, University of Georgia	<i>Jan 2021 – Present</i>
Short-Term Consultant, The World Bank	<i>Apr 2023 – May 2024</i>
Research and Operations Consultant, Precision Development (PxD)	<i>Jul 2019 – Jul 2020</i>
Graduate Assistant, Montana State University	<i>Aug 2017 – May 2019</i>
Research Associate, Interdisciplinary Analysts	<i>Aug 2015 – Jul 2017</i>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor for AAEC 2580: Applied Microeconomic Principles (UGA) [Rating: 4.42/5]	<i>Summer 2024</i>
TA for AAEC 3010: Farm Organization and Management (UGA)	<i>Fall 2022</i>
TA for AAEC 3040: Agribusiness Marketing (UGA)	<i>Fall 2021</i>
TA for ECNS 320: Public Finance (MSU)	<i>Fall 2018</i>

AWARDS

UGA Graduate School Summer Research Grants (\$1,500)	<i>2024</i>
UGA Graduate School Domestic Travel Grant Award	<i>2022, 2023, 2024</i>

SERVICE

Referee: 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Water Resources and Economics*

Treasurer (2021-23) and Social Chair (2024-25), UGA DAAE Graduate Student Association

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Economic Association (AEA)	<i>2023 –</i>
Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA)	<i>2021 –</i>
Mentee, Association of Mentorship and Inclusion in Economics (AMIE)	<i>2022–23</i>

REFERENCES

Nicholas Magnan
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