



L. Michael Lege



BA, Humanities (Washington State University)

BA, Anthropology (Washington State University)

MS, Environmental Science (Washington State University)

PhD Student in Environmental Science (Washington State University)

The NSPIRE IGERT Program is a multidisciplinary student doctoral training program designed to create a new generation of scientists with broad and rigorous training in nitrogen cycling who seamlessly integrate nitrogen cycle science for effective communication with public policy makers.

Research title: Effective Distribution Channels for Bean Seed and Rhizobial Inoculants

The developing world needs sustainable nitrogen sources to improve agricultural production and food security. Inorganic nitrogen fertilizers carry high cost and unsustainable ecological consequences. The symbiosis between legume plants and rhizobia bacteria has the potential to provide a cheap, organic, and ecologically sound supply of nitrogen while improving food security and farm output. More research is necessary to improve the effectiveness of the symbiosis and availability of inoculants. Michael's research seeks to identify ecological and social constraints to the adoption and dissemination of rhizobial inoculants in east Africa. This analysis will improve the impact of U.S. and international development organizations on agricultural production.

Contact information:

School of the Environment

Office: 130 Johnson Hall / Washington State University, Pullman /

Pullman, WA 99164

Tel: 509-335-4551 - Email: leland.lege@email.wsu.edu - Web link: <http://igert.nspire.wsu.edu/>