Dr. Kim E. Hummer

Horticulturist • Geneticist • Plant Collector

About

Kim E. Hummer is an internationally recognized horticultural scientist with expertise in plant genetics, taxonomy, germplasm conservation, and crop diversity. Her career combines scientific research, leadership in genetic resource conservation, plant exploration, teaching, and service to the global horticultural community.

Quick Facts

Scientific Expertise

Plant Physiology • Genetics • Plant Taxonomy • Genetic Diversity

Affiliation

Oregon State University
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
United States

Languages

- English
- Spanish
- French
- Japanese

Contact

✉ hummerk@oregonstate.edu

Mentor Availability

✅ **Flash Mentor**
Question-and-answer support

✅ **Short-Term Mentor**
Available for 1 to 3 months

✅ **Medium-Long Term Mentor**
Available for more than 3 months

ISHS Experience

- Symposium Convener
- Commission Chair
- Section Chair
- Division Chair
- ISHS Board Member
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Science Editor
- Council Representative

Crop Expertise

Fruit Crops

Fragaria, *Ribes*, *Rubus*, *Vaccinium*

Tree Crops

Corylus, *Pyrus*

Specialty Crops

Humulus, *Mentha*

Ornamentals

Forsythia, *Berberis*

International Experience

Research conducted throughout the eastern and Pacific northwestern United States, including Alaska and Hawaii.

Plant collection and scientific collaboration activities in:

United States • Russia • Japan • China • Italy • India • Canada • Vietnam

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Career Highlights

- B.S. Biology, St. Lawrence University (1974)
- M.S., University of Vermont (1978)
- Ph.D. in Horticulture, Oregon State University (1981)
- Honorary Doctorate in Agronomy, Swedish Agricultural University (2009)
- Honorary Member, Società di Ortoflorofrutticoltura Italiana (2013)
- Honorary Member, International Society for Horticultural Science (2018)
- Research Leader and Manager of the USDA National Clonal Germplasm Repository
- Managed a collection of more than 13,000 plant and seed accessions
- Participated in more than 21 national and international plant-collecting expeditions
- Published over 250 scientific articles, 12 books, and 23 book chapters
- Supervised 12 graduate students
- Instructor of Plant Propagation at the University of Vermont and Oregon State University
- Released four plant cultivars and an advanced hop germplasm selection

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Personal Statement

Kim was born in Washington, D.C. and has devoted her career to the conservation and study of horticultural genetic resources. Her work has focused on fruit, nut, and specialty crop germplasm, plant taxonomy, genetics, and crop diversity. Through international collaborations, scientific publications, teaching, and leadership roles, she has contributed significantly to the advancement of horticultural science worldwide.

Her research has included the taxonomy and diversity of berry crops, genetic resource conservation, phylogeny of *Rubus*, genotype-phenotype relationships in strawberry and blueberry cultivars, and cultivar development. She is passionate about sharing knowledge and supporting the next generation of horticultural scientists.

Areas in Which Kim Can Mentor

- Research leadership
- Scientific publishing and publication strategy
- Germplasm conservation and management

- Plant genetics and diversity studies
- Taxonomy and crop identification
- International scientific collaboration
- Graduate student supervision
- Career development in horticultural science
- Plant collecting and genetic resource conservation
