



2015 BHEARD Scholar
Gondah Moses Zolue

Profile

Country of Study:	United States
University:	Texas Tech
Department:	Plant and Soil Science
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant
Hometown:	Gbayline Town, Nimba County, Liberia
Home Institution:	CARI (Central Agricultural Research Institute)
Home Position:	Research associate
Mentored By:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Walter Wiles, Liberia• Assistant Professor Katie Lewis, Texas Tech University

Research Area: Plant and Soil Science

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: August 2015

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: B.Sc., General Agriculture, Cuttington University, Liberia

GRADUATE EDUCATION: M.Sc., Soil Science, University of Ghana

RESEARCH INTERESTS: My long-term research interest is to develop a technology that is easily accessible and adaptable by farmers for ameliorating physical and chemical properties of highly degraded soils in Liberia. I also plan to address the growing concern of soil degradation arising from deforestation in Liberia. Deforestation is a major contributing factor to desertification, wind erosion and severe runoff that results in the loss of major plant nutrients.

With rice being the staple food crop of Liberians, dominating the agricultural sector and accounting for more than 22 percent of agricultural gross domestic product (GDP), examining the chemistry and effectiveness of common nitrogenous fertilizer compounds for its production under different ecologies is something I hope to accomplish. This will alleviate the difficulties farmers go through in formulating the right dosage for maximum yield.

PERSONAL STATEMENT: I will like to use the knowledge acquired from Texas Tech University to contribute to the development of Liberia, especially with farmers in the field of soil science. In addition, I hope to assimilate, analyze, synthesize, integrate concepts and solve problems of soils arising in the academic arena (University of Liberia and Cuttington University) and the general agricultural sector of Liberia. Lastly, I wish to mentor future plant and soil science scholars.

WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY: Doing my spare time, I enjoy watching news, social media, networking with friends, exercising and listening to African songs.