Introduction
My internship took place in Pullman, Washington in the soil chemistry lab of the Department of Crops & Soil Sciences. I worked with mentors Zhenqing Shi and James Harsh. The lab has five graduate students working on soil chemistry and soil physics. I was able to work in various areas of the project, apply what I have learned in the classroom, and develop my research skills.

Responsibilities
My major responsibilities consisted of evaluating iron compost for the remediation of contaminated soils. I conducted lead and phosphorus adsorption experiments and chemical extractions of compost samples in which I ran phosphorus, calcium, magnesium, iron, and lead analysis. I assisted in making compost samples with various amounts of iron and running experiments to evaluate remediation of contaminated soils with compost. I also helped clean lab equipment needed for my research work and other graduate students in the lab and assisted them in their experiments.

Summary
Being able to work in a laboratory in which I worked on my own project was a valuable experience. I was able to learn lab techniques and skills as well as learning how to use scientific instruments. This internship showed me that research is a lot of work and even though in class you learn the concepts there is still much to learn. I developed valuable research skills and obtained good ideas on how to conduct research which will help me in graduate school in the future. I got the opportunity to learn about compost (its properties and functions), soil chemistry, and other areas of agriculture. My goals are to attend graduate school and aid agricultural workers through the improvement of harvest techniques and fruit quality. This research experience has been very rewarding. It has prepared and given me the skills necessary to be successful in my future career.