



**USDA-Agriculture Research Service
Pullman, WA
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Introduction: The USDA Agriculture Research Service Germplasm Center's goal is to increase, evaluate, maintain, and distribute germplasm to researchers and plant breeders.

Responsibilities Performed: irrigation, irrigation system maintenance/installation, pollination, planting, soil mixing, pruning, harvesting, sanitation, data collecting, dumping/sanitizing pots, stringing trellis lines for plants, and tissue sampling.



Figure 1: *Oxalis*, a major greenhouse weed I had to pull.



Figure 2: A lady beetle larvae feeding on aphids. Ladybeetles are a great addition to a greenhouse IPM program.



Figure 3: A newly planted section of accessions.



Figure 4 (left): Blooms from *Phaseolus polystachios* that need to be pollinated. (right): Successful pod set after pollination on an accession of *Phaseolus polystachios*.

Summary: This experience has fostered my professional growth by giving me hands on experience doing a wide array of tasks in a greenhouse setting through working alongside USDA employees who have many years of greenhouse experience. Through learning the process of growing mass amounts of greenhouse plants from the beginning to the end of their lifecycle I have developed the confidence I needed to be successful working in a greenhouse when I begin my future career.