

# LE CHEN

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## EDUCATION

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<b>North Carolina State University</b>	2022
Ph.D. in Economics	
<b>University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</b>	2017
M.S. in Economics	
<b>University of Minnesota-Twin Cities</b>	2016
B.S. in Economics	

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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<b>Assistant Professor</b>	08/2023-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics</li><li>• 75% Research and 25% Teaching</li></ul>	
<b>Postdoctoral Research Associate</b>	09/2022-07/2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Carolina State University, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics</li><li>• Supervisor: Prof. Roderick Rejesus</li></ul>	

## RESEARCH FIELDS

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Agricultural Production and Policy, Conservation Practice Adoption, Agricultural Finance, Risk Management, Environmental and Resource Economics, Applied Econometrics

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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1. **Chen, L.**, Rejesus, R., Yan, H., Aglasan, S. (2026) “**Lost Ground, Lost Value: Investigating the Relationship Between Soil Erosion and Agricultural Land Value.**” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. Accepted.
2. **Chen, L.**, Yu, E., Williams, H. (2026) “**Impact of Soil Erosion on Corn Yields: A Spatial Regression Analysis.**” *Agrosystems, Geosciences & Environment*. Accepted.
3. **Chen, L.**, Rejesus, R., Brown, Z., Boyer, C., and Larson, J. (2025) “**Dynamically Optimal Cover Crop Adoption.**” *European Review of Agricultural Economics*, Volume 52, Issue 3, July 2025, Pages 301–333. (*Editor’s Choice*) [Link](#)
4. Velandia, M., Trejo-Pech, C., Butler, D., **Chen, L.**, Wszelaki, A., Delong, K., Schexnayder, S., and Shanto, H. (2025) “**Tennessee Fruit and Vegetable Farmers’ Willingness to Adopt Alley Cropping Systems.**” *HortTechnology*, 35(2), 166-176. [Link](#)
5. Boyer, C., **Chen, L.**, Perez Quesada, G., and Smith, A. (2024) “**Unwelcomed Guests: Impact of Deer Harvest on Corn and Soybean Wildlife Damage.**” *Crop Protection*. Volume 183, 106753. [Link](#)
6. Lee, D., **Chen, L.**, Rejesus, R., Aglasan, S., Dinterman, R., and Connor, L. (2024) “**The Effect of Crop Insurance on Agricultural Loan Delinquencies.**” *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics Association*, 3(1), 256-274. [Link](#)

7. **Chen, L.**, Rejesus, R., Aglasan, S., Hagen, S., and Salas, W. (2023) “**The Impact of No-Till on Agricultural Land Values in the United States Midwest.**” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 105(3), 760-783. [Link](#)

-Top 10% of most-read papers published in *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 2023-2024

8. **Chen, L.**, Rejesus, R., Aglasan, S., Hagen, S., and Salas, W. (2022) “**The Impact of Cover Crops on Soil Erosion in the US Midwest**” *Journal of Environmental Management*, 324, 116168. [Link](#)

## RESEARCH GRANTS

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“Assessing the Influence of Cover Crop Adoption on Farmland Values in Tennessee: An Economic Perspective.” University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (UTIA) AgResearch Seed Grant. 2025-2026. Role: Lead-PI. Amount: \$30,000

“Alley Cropping Agroforestry as a Climate Change Resiliency Strategy for Vegetable Production in the Southeastern US.” Southern Region SARE Program – University of Georgia. 2023-2026. Role: Co-PI. Amount: \$367,000

“Techno-Market Analysis of US Biorefinery Supply Chains from Feedstock to Alternative Jet Fuels.” DOT - FAA - Federal Aviation Administration. 2024-2025. Role: Co-PI. Amount: \$2,276,500

“Labor, Efficiency, Automation, and Production. LEAP Nursery Crops Toward Sustainability.” USDA-NIFA. 2024–2029. Role: Co-PI. Amount: \$9,825,677

“Providing Underserved Producer Education on Unit Structure, Buy-Up Coverage, and Companion Policies.” USDA-NIFA. 2024-2025. Role: Co-PI. Amount: \$99,205

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

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**2026** International Business and Economy Conference (IBEC), Cultivate Annual Meeting (scheduled)

**2025** SAEA Annual Meeting, SCC-76 Annual Meeting, AAEA Annual Meeting, Mississippi State University, Food Distribution Research Society Conference

**2024** SCC-76 Annual Meeting, AAEA Annual Meeting, NC-1177 Annual Meeting

**2023** AAEA Annual Meeting

**2022** AAEA Annual Meeting, NC-1177 Annual Meeting, NCSU CEnREP Brownbag Seminar, NCSU EATD Seminar

**2021** AAEA Annual Meeting (virtual), NCSU EATD Seminar

**2020** AAEA Annual Meeting (virtual)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Independent Instructor**, University of Tennessee-Knoxville *Spring24-present*

-Economics of the Global Food and Fiber System (AREC 201)

-Decisions, Uncertainty, and Resource Allocation (AREC 542, Master-level)

**Guest Lecturer**, North Carolina State University *Spring23*

- Topics In Environmental and Resource Economics (ECG 716, PhD-level)

**Independent Instructor**, North Carolina State University *Fall21, Spring22*

- Fundamentals of Economics (EC205)

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, North Carolina State University

*Spring22*

-Research Seminar in Economics: Equity, Diversity, and Economic Mechanisms (EC490)

**Head Teaching Assistant, Lab Instructor**, North Carolina State University *Fall18 to Spring21*

- Fundamentals of Economics (EC205)

## GRADUATE ADVISING

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### *Committee Chair*

Jebina Shrestha, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Agricultural Economics, MS, *in progress*

### *Committee Member*

Austin Weis, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Agricultural Economics, MS, *in progress*

Pranesh Dey, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Agricultural Economics, MS, *in progress*

Smirti Shahi, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Plant Science, Ph.D., *in progress*

Priya Barua, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Agricultural Economics, MS

Hasibul Hasan Shanto, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Agricultural Economics, MS

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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### **AAEA Agricultural Finance and Management Section**

- Outstanding Young Scholar Award, 2025

### **North Carolina State University**

- Gerald A. Carlson Best Dissertation Award, 2023
- Graduate Teaching Assistantship, 2018-2022
- Summer Research Assistantship, 2022
- Conference Travel Fund, AAEA, 2022,2023
- Wells Fargo Graduate Fellowship, 2022
- The Graduate School Summer Fellowship, 2021
- Goins Economic Graduate Education Scholarship, 2020-2021
- Andrew & Thelma Bartley Endowment Scholarship, 2019-2020
- Owens Graduate Fellowship Fund Scholarship, 2018-2019, 2021
- Wachovia Graduate Fellowship, 2017-2018

### **University of Minnesota-Twin Cities**

- Dean's Honors for Academic Excellence, 2014-2015

## PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICES

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**Leadership:** Chair-Elected/Chair, AAEA Applied Risk Analysis (ARA) Section (2025-2027)

**Referee:** American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural and Resource Economics Review, Agricultural Finance Review, Handbooks of Circular Bioeconomy (book

chapter), Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Journal of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Journal of Food Distribution Research

**Reviewer:** AAEA annual meeting abstracts (2023 - present)

**Memberships:** Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association, Southern Agricultural Economics Association, *NC1177*: Agricultural and Rural Finance Markets in Transition, *SCC-76*: Economics and Management of Risk in Agriculture and Natural Resources

## SKILLS

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**Software:** Stata, MatLab, R, SAS, ArcGIS, QGIS, Tableau, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Ztree

**Language:** Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent)