

Curriculum Vitae

Clara Patricia Peña Venegas

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Scientific researcher at Sinchi Institute

DATE OF BIRTH: 19 JULY 1968

NATIONALITY: Colombian

THEMATIC EXPERTISE: Soil biology and microbiology, Amazon region, plant-microorganism associations, sustainable development.

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: Tropics, Amazon region

Overview

Soil microbiologist from the Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá-Colombia; with a Master of Science degree in tropical forests from the College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry of the State University of New York, USA; and a Doctorate degree from the Wageningen University, The Netherlands, as part of the Terra Preta Program, a program supported by INREF. Associate researcher of the Amazonian Institute for scientific research Sinchi, a Colombian institute linked to the Ministry of Environment. Researcher with more than 15 years living and working in the Colombian Amazon, with good individual and collective work capacity, charismatic and with a high responsibility sense. A person who likes to assume challenges and learn each day. With proficiency in English and basic knowledge of Portuguese what permit her to maintain work and personal relationships with professionals from different world regions. Co-founder of the Cerca Viva private natural research and the Selvalegre School in Leticia, Amazonas, Colombia. Topics of interest: Amazonian soils, soil microbiology and biology, food security, people-environment interactions, historical ecology.

Education and Qualifications

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|------------------|---|
| 2011-2015 | PhD
University of Wageningen and Research Centre – The Netherlands
Terra Preta program, Graduate School for Production Ecology and Resource Conservation |
| 1997-1999 | Master of Science
State University of New York, USA, College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry, Syracuse |
| 1986-1990 | Professional title
Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Microbiology
Microbiologist |

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

2005- PRESENT Associate Researcher IV

Instituto Amazónico de Investigaciones Científicas Sinchi, Colombia

1995 - 2005

Junior Researcher II

Instituto Amazónico de Investigaciones Científicas Sinchi, Colombia

1994-1995

Technical asesor

Network of Amazonian Protected Areas-SURAPA ATC – CEE/Amacayacu National Natural Park, Amazonas, Colombia

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES

Peña-Venegas C. P., Verschoor G., Stomph T. J., Struik P. C. 2017. Challenging current knowledge on Amazonian Dark Earths: Indigenous manioc cultivation on different soils of the Colombian Amazon. *Culture, Agriculture, Food and Environment*. 1-11.

Peña-Venegas C. P., Mendoza E. R., Rodríguez C. H., Betancourt B., Garzón M. T., Cardona G.I. 2015. Depósitos de carbono en suelos bajo relictos de bosque y praderas de fincas del departamento de Caquetá (Colombia). *Revista Colombia Amazónica, nueva época* 8: 41-54.

Peña-Venegas C. P., Stomph T. J., Verschoor G., Echeverri J.A., Struik P.C. 2015. Classification and use of natural and anthropogenic soils by indigenous communities of the Upper Amazon region of Colombia. *Human Ecology* 44: 1-15.

Peña-Venegas C.P., Stomph T. J., Verschoor G., Becerra Lopez-Lavalle L. A., Struik Paul C. 2014. Differences in Manioc Diversity Among Five Ethnic Groups of the Colombian Amazon. *Diversity* 6: 792-826.

Peña-Venegas C.P., Acosta L.E., Verschoor G., Logreira-Buitrago C.E., Agudelo E. 2014. Mining threats to ancient anthropogenic soils and other resources associated to indigenous food security in the middle Caquetá River, Colombia. *Journal of Earth Science and Engineering* 4, 372-377.

Peña-Venegas C.P., Mendoza E.R., Betancourt B., Garzón M.T., Rodriguez C.H., Cardona G.I. 2013. C fixing capacity of Amazonian soils and its relationship with their state of degradation. 17th conference of the international organization of soil. *Memories*. July 8-12/2013. ISBN 978-958-57973-0-7

BOOKS AND CHAPTERS OF BOOKS

Peña-Venegas, C. P. 2015. People, soil and manioc interactions in the upper Amazon region. ISBN: 978-94-6257-322-2. 210p.

Peña-Venegas C.P., Cardona G. 2010. Dinámica de los suelos amazónicos: Procesos de degradación y alternativas para su recuperación. Instituto Amazónico de Investigaciones Científicas Sinchi. 122p.

Peña-Venegas C. P. 2010. Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi in the Amazon región. *In: Mycorrhiza: occurrence in natural and restored environments*. M. Pagano eds. Nova Publishers, New York: 75 - 86