

RODRIGO A. ORTEGA-BLU

Professor at Technical University Federico Santa Maria (UTFSM), in Chile, since 2005.

In 2018 co-founded the Latin American Association on Precision Agriculture (ALAP) and appointed as its first president for the period 2018-2022.

From 2011 to 2013 was the Academic Director of Campus Vitacura of UTFSM in Santiago.

In 2009 created and directed (from 2009 to 2013) the Master Program on Agricultural Technology and Management (MGTA) at UTFSM.

In 2008 founded Agriservice SpA, a company devoted to research, consulting, and special laboratory analysis in the areas of microbiology, biochemistry, and chemistry.

In 2008 was part of the group of founders of the International Society of Precision Agriculture (ISPA). Has served as Vice-president of the Latin American community and country representative.

In 2005 created and led (until 2013) the Advanced Center for Agricultural Technology (CATA) at UTFSM.

In 2004 cofounded the Company, NeoAg Precision Agriculture, dedicated to products and services of Precision Agriculture.

From 2001 to 2004 worked as Professor at Pontifical Catholic University. He was the creator and Director of the former Precision Agriculture Research Centre (CAPUC).

From 2000 to 2001, worked as Agricultural Director for SQM, a large multinational fertilizer company, in Mexico.

From 1987 to 2000 worked at the National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA) in Chile. He created the program on Precision Agriculture and organized the National Soil Fertility Laboratory, a state-of-the-art facility to support research and extension in soil fertility and plant nutrition.

From 1997 to 1999, was elected as Head of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Has worked as private national and international consultant in Precision Agriculture, soil fertility and plant nutrition, agricultural market, and fertilizer product development, etc.

Is the author or co-author of more than 130 technical and extension publications.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date of birth : August 27, 1963

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	1997	Agronomy	Colorado State University	Fort Collins, CO, USA
M.S.	1995	Agronomy	Colorado State University	Fort Collins, CO, USA
B.S.	1986	Agronomy	Concepción University	Chile

HONORS AND AWARDS RECEIVED

1996	Recipient- "J. Fielding Reed" PPI Fellowship by Potash and Phosphate Institute. USA.
1994	Recipient- "Hunter Follet" award by Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, Colorado State University. USA.
1987	Recipient- "Premio Universidad de Concepción" award by University de Concepción to its best-graduating students.
1987	Recipient- "Premio Sociedad Agronómica de Chile", by Chilean Society of Agronomy to the best agronomy-graduating students at Chilean Universities.
1987	Recipient- "Premio Facultad" award by College of Agricultural Sciences, Universidad de Concepción, to the best agronomy-graduating student.
1986	Recipient- "Shell-Chile" fellowship by the Shell Company to the best Agronomy student at Universidad de Concepción.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Sociedad Agronómica de Chile
American Society of Agronomy
Soil Science Society of America
Crop Science Society of America
International Society of Precision Agriculture
Asociación Latinoamericana de Agricultura de Precisión
Asociación Chilena de Agricultura de Precisión
Colegio de Ingenieros Agrónomos de Ñuble.
Gamma Sigma Delta. Honor Society of Agriculture

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