

Fantahun Dereje Dugasa

Assistant Professor

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Research gate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Fantahun-Dugassa?ev=hdr_xprf;

Google scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=juXwT28AAAAJ&hl=en>;

Professional Summary

I am an Assistant Professor in Animal Production with a focus on Feeds and Forage Agronomy over 15 years of experience in higher education, research, and development. I earned my PhD in Animal Production in 2025 with an excellent result, where my dissertation combined field experimentation and modeling to evaluate the agronomic performance, nutritional value, and climate change impacts on *Brachiaria* species in Central and Western Ethiopia. My expertise spans livestock–forage systems, crop–climate interactions, and sustainable intensification, with strong skills in simulation modeling with DSSAT, data analysis using R, and system-level evaluation of agricultural productivity. I have led and collaborated on national and international projects, resulting in more than 14 peer-reviewed publications. Strategic, detail-oriented, and results-driven, committed to advancing research excellence, publication quality, ethical accountability, and impactful community engagement.

Skills

- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral, as well as professional and interpersonal
- Highly organized, multitasking, critical thinking and decision-making skills
- Strong analytical and evaluation skills
- Excellent leadership quality
- Extensive data analysis skill using different software such as R, SAS, SPSS, DSSAT, etc
- Extensive knowledge of MS Word, MS Excel, MS Power Point, MS Publisher

Work

Experience in Higher Institutions

Teaching and Research

November 2016 – Present

Wollega University

- Teaching different undergraduate animal science courses under the faculty of agriculture.
- Participated in the curriculum and syllabus development for undergraduate and postgraduate animal science department.
- Plan, design, and undertake research, lead data collection process, data analysis, and report writing
- Train farmers, experts and development agents in different livestock production related topics
- Publish research results for sharing and communication of research findings

Research Assistance

October 2009 - October 2016

Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR)

- Plan and design how to implement the proposed activities with the supervision of researchers.
- Undertake data collection process and data analysis.
- Develop work plan and track the progress of planned research activities.
- Monitoring and follow-up of both on station and on-farm research activities.
- Provision of training to livestock producers and DAs on feed production, preservation and feeding
- Provision of technical support and advisory services to the farmers who produce forage for their livestock's.
- Publish research results for sharing and communication of research findings.

Leadership

Shambu Campus Research Centers Coordinator Officer

February 2025 – Present

- Plan, design, and coordinate research undertaken in Wollega University Shambu Campus Research Centers (Guduru Center, Hareto, Abe Dongoro, Shambu and Gitilo sites).
- Currently, I am playing a critical role for the reinstatement of Guduru and Gitilo research centers.
- Monitoring and evaluations of on-going, completed and new research and community activities
- Producing technical and regular progress reports

Head Department of Animal Science

September 2017 – October 2019

- Facilitated the ongoing of teaching learning process for the department of Animal Science.
- Supported and organized for the establishment of Dairy farm in the Shambu Campus, Wallaga University.
- Producing technical and regular progress reports

Education

Higher Education

PhD Degree in Animal Production

September 2020 to June 2025

- Addis Ababa University, College of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture, Bishoftu, Ethiopia.
- PhD. Dissertation title: Agronomic Performance, Nutritional Value, and Simulation of the Impacts of Climate Change on Growth and Yield of four *Brachiaria* (Trin.) Griseb. (Syn. *Urochloa* P. Beauv.) Species Under Two Locations in Central and Western Ethiopia.

MSc Degree in Tropical Animal Production and Health

September 2014 to July 2015

- Addis Ababa University, College of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture, Bishoftu, Ethiopia.
- MSc. Thesis title: The effect of variety and seed proportions on yield, nutritional quality and compatibility of Oats and vetch mixtures.

BSc Degree in Agribusiness Development and Management

September 2008 to June 2013

- Yardstick International College, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Diploma in Animal Science

September 2004 to June 2006

- Asella Agricultural college, Asella, Ethiopia

Trainings

- Higher Diploma Program (Wollega University)
- GIS and Remote Sensing (Wollega University)
- FEAST, Techfit and Value Chain Assessment training (ILRI)

Online Trainings

- November 20, 2025. **Programming Fundamentals** www.udacity.com/certificate/e/dd246b58-c5dc-11f0-81d4-6b066147c71a.
- November 20, 2025. **Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals** www.udacity.com/certificate/e/d542982e-c5e6-11f0-ab03-87331edfd70c.
- November 20, 2025. **Android Developer Fundamentals** www.udacity.com/certificate/e/972bf92a-c610-11f0-833a-6fb921b9f16b.
- May 2, 2024. **Master Class for Teaching Online (Open edX)**, Arizona State University, USA.
- May 2, 2024. **Master Class for Teaching Online (Open edX)**, Arizona State University, USA.
- May 24, 2023. **Excellence in peer review: How to be an effective peer reviewer**, Taylor & Francis
- Feb 24, 2022. **Live-Virtual Course: From innovative ideas to Scholarly Books in Science & Technology**, Taylor and Francis
- Feb 23, 2022. **Publishing Ethics**, Taylor and Francis

Awards and Grants

- Granted an IDEA WILD Project with Project ID: DUGAETHI0725-00

Editorial and Peer-Review Service

- Associate Editor, *Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Journal*, Wollega University (March 2026–Present).
- Associate/Handling Editor, *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems* (2025).
- Reviewer: *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems* (2026); *Agroforestry Systems* (2025); *Scientific Reports* (2025); *Science, Technology and Arts Research Journal* (2025); *Journal of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources* (2025); *Journal of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences* (2026).

Publications: Journals and Proceedings

1. **Dereje, F.**, Mengistu, A., Geleti, D., Diba, D., Feyissa, F., Tesfaye, B., ... & Itana, D. (2026). Growth and Profitability of Arsi-Bale Rams Using *Brachiaria mutica* Hay and Strategic Concentrate Supplementation. *Veterinary and Animal Science*, 100638. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vas.2026.100638>
2. **Dereje, F.**, Mengistu, A., Geleti, D., Diba, D., Feyissa, F., Pequeno, D., & Tesfaye, B. (2025). Simulating the growth and yields of *Brachiaria Brizantha* using the CROPGRO-perennial forage model under present and future climate conditions in subhumid environments of Ethiopia. *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology*, 371, 110605. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agrformet.2025.110605>
3. **Dereje, F.**, Mengistu, A., Geleti, D., Feyissa, F., Diba, D., Pequeno, D., & Tesfaye, B. (2024). Calibration and evaluation of a CROPGRO Perennial Forage Model for *Brachiaria humidicola* yield simulation under future climate in subhumid environments of Ethiopia. *African Journal of Range & Forage Science*, 1–9. <https://doi.org/10.2989/10220119.2024.2380699>
4. **Dereje, F.**, Mengitsu, A., Geleti, D., Diba, D., Feyissa, F., Beriso, Y., Tesfaye, B., & Dejene, M. (2024). Agronomic performance and nutritive value of *Urochloa* species, Desho and Rhodes grass grown in sub-humid central Ethiopia. *Tropical Grasslands-Forrajes Tropicales*, 12(3), 154–161. [https://doi.org/10.17138/tgft\(12\)154-161](https://doi.org/10.17138/tgft(12)154-161)
5. **Dereje, F.**, Mengistu, A., Geleti, D., Diba, D., & Feyissa, F. (2024). Herbage Yield and Nutritive Value of Selected Grasses in Subhumid Agroecological Environments in Ethiopia. *International Journal of Agronomy*, 1–8. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/6170361>
6. Tilahun, A., Fufa, H. W., **Dugassa, F. D.**, Bekele, N. A., Taressa, C. W., Tasgera, S. T., & Adugna, G. D. (2024). Assessment of Hydroelectric Dam and Its Effects on Forests and Rural Livelihoods: The Case of Fincha-Amarti-Nashe, Ethiopia. *Journal of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources*, 2(1), 40-45.
7. Dugassa, S., Diba, D., Hundie, D., & **Dereje, F.** (2023). Characterization of Scavenged Feeds and Crop Content Composition of Scavenging Indigenous Chicken. *Journal of Science, Technology and Arts Research*, 12(2), 1-12.
8. Etafa, A.T., Adugna, G.D. & **Dugassa, F.D.** Soil physicochemical properties and coffee production under canopies of *Croton machrostachyus* and *Cordia Africana* tree species in Sayo district, western Ethiopia. *Agroforest Syst* (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10457-023-00807-5>
9. Wana, H., Kudama, G., Tilahun, A., **Dereje, F.**, Ababulgu, N., Gobena, G., Tadese, B., Chalchisa, B. (2022). Indigenous knowledge and traditional agroforestry practices and their implications for food security: the case of Wollega Zones, Western Ethiopia. *GeoJournal*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10708-022-10772-8>
10. **Dereje, F.**, Dugasa, S., Diba, D., Yusuf, H., Tesfaye, B., Mekonnen, A., & Mohammed, H. (2020). The Status of Improved Forage Production and Utilization in Horro Guduru Wollega Zone, Western Oromiya Regional State, Ethiopia. *World Journal of Agricultural Sciences*, 16(4), 238–246. <https://doi.org/10.5829/idosi.wjas.2020.238.246>
11. Getahun k., Alemayehu G. and **Fantahun D.** (2018). Characterization of dairy farms, farmers' training and on-farm evaluation of urea treated straw and urea molasses block (UMB) feeding on performances

of lactating crossbred cows in Ada district of East Shoa Zone Ethiopia. *World J. Agric. Sci.*, 14(3): 81-88, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.5829/idosi.wjas.2018.81.88>

12. **Dereje, F.**, Mengistu, A., Geleti, D., & Tesfaye, B. (2017). The Effect of Variety and Seed Proportions on Yield, Nutritional Quality and Compatibility of Oats and Vetch Mixtures. In E. Mijena, H. Legesse, D. Diba, & R. HL (Eds.), *Agriculture, Climate Change and Environmental Safety: The Challenges on National Transformation in Ethiopia*, 23rd and 24th February 2017 Venue: Shambu Campus, Wollega University, Shambu, Ethiopia (pp. 19–38). Wollega University Press.
13. Addisu A., Solomon M., Solomon A., **Fantahun D.**, Wamatu J. and Thrope W. (2012). Characterization of the livestock production system and the potential of feed- based interventions in Adama district and Arsi Negelle district, Ethiopia. ILRI. Pp1-15.
14. Addisu, A., Solomon, M., Getachew, L., Solomon, A., **Fantahun, D.**, Duncan, A. J., & Thorpe, W. R. (2012). Beef and feed value chain analysis in Adama District, Ethiopia. ILRI. Pp1-23.

References

1. Diriba Geleti (PhD), Senior Researcher
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