

## PRESS RELEASE

# ISABEL DELAMATER NAMED 2023 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Isabel C. Delamater of Marysville, Ohio, has been named a 2023 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

“The Distinguished Senior Award is the most prestigious undergraduate award in CFAES and honors top graduating seniors on the Ohio State Columbus campus,” said Ann Christy, CFAES professor and associate dean for academic programs. “The 25 award recipients exemplify the CFAES mission in areas such as academics and scholarship, research and innovation, service and involvement, and influence and leadership.”

Delamater, a sustainable plant systems major in the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science (HCS), was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that she personified the award’s attributes of academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence.

The first-generation college student transferred to Ohio State from Columbus State Community College. Specializing in plant biosciences, she identified her most valuable learning experience as interning at the Chadwick Arboretum and Learning Gardens on Ohio State’s campus. “I learned many horticultural and landscaping practices and was able to apply what I learned in the classroom to a real-world situation,” Delamater said. “I was also able to attend workshops and lectures, and work closely with other departments at Ohio State.”

However, her greatest sense of accomplishment comes from being president of the Design for 90 student organization, a humanitarian engineering club with project teams focusing on serving under-served communities in Columbus. “We have teams working on projects related to adaptive devices, homelessness, and food insecurity,” she said. “As president, I work closely with the team leads to ensure that the projects are being completed in a timely fashion. I also work with community partners to create projects and ensure that the project is serving their mission.”

According to her HCS nominator and advisor, Andrea Gschwend, “I have been impressed by Isabel’s academic progress, her dedication to her job, her motivation to carry out research, and her deep involvement with the community. She has excelled in her courses and has been on the Dean’s List every semester.”

Since her freshman year, Delamater has also worked with the Charles Madison Nabrit Memorial Garden. Located in a part of Columbus with little access to fresh produce, she has volunteered with the garden on most Saturdays during the growing season and has completed many other projects for them as well.

She calls the garden the most rewarding experience of her undergraduate career with its mission of providing affordable produce to the surrounding area. “I began working there after an Engineering for Community

Development class,” she said. “We focused on creating composting systems, water collection systems, educational programming, and other related projects for the garden.” The service-learning course applies engineering to contemporary issues related to food security in Central Ohio.

After graduation, Delamater plans to attend the University of Kentucky to obtain a master’s degree in the integrated plant and soil sciences program.

A reception for the Distinguished Senior Award recipients and their families was held on Wednesday, March 22, hosted by Ann Christy and Cathann A. Kress, vice president for agricultural administration and CFAES dean. Meet the 25 outstanding students and learn more about each via a YouTube video release at [go.osu.edu/CFAES2023DSA](https://go.osu.edu/CFAES2023DSA).

In autumn 2022, there were 2,248 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing bachelor of science degrees in 22 majors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs at [go.osu.edu/B4V2](https://go.osu.edu/B4V2).



## Isabel C. Delamater

MARYSVILLE, OH

SUSTAINABLE PLANT SYSTEMS  
- PLANT BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE

Photo available by sending a request to [flood.13@osu.edu](mailto:flood.13@osu.edu)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

#### WRITER(S)

Sherrie R. Whaley  
[whaley.3@osu.edu](mailto:whaley.3@osu.edu)  
614-582-6111

#### SOURCE(S):

R. Warren Flood  
[flood.13@osu.edu](mailto:flood.13@osu.edu)  
614-247-6624