

WAJDI BELGACEM

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: wajdbelgacem@gmail.com | Phone: (402) 805-7957

Website: [wajdibelgacem.com](https://www.wajdibelgacem.com) [in](#) [LinkedIn](#)

PROFILE

Applied economist with experience analyzing agricultural markets, public policy, and regional industry change. Skilled in R, Python, and Stata; builds complex datasets and translates quantitative findings into research reports, Extension publications, and presentations.

EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Research Associate, South Dakota State University (Aug 2025–Present)

- Conduct applied economic research on South Dakota and Northern Plains agriculture, including statewide analysis of the dairy sector, weather and climate risk, and technology adoption.
- Write research reports and publications for decision-makers, including SDSU Extension pieces on South Dakota dairy production and farm resilience written for producers, industry, and policymakers.
- Build and maintain data collection and analysis workflows in R and Python, integrating USDA, NOAA, PRISM, satellite, and survey data into clean, documented datasets.
- Produce data tables, visualizations, and presentations that translate quantitative findings for technical and non-technical audiences.
- Contribute economic analysis and research design to USDA-NIFA and university research proposals.

Graduate Research Assistant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Aug 2021–Aug 2025)

- Analyzed federal insurance programs and their performance for producers across the Northern Great Plains, combining program records, weather data, and satellite-derived measures.
- Built and validated large spatial and panel datasets and delivered findings through peer-reviewed publications and presentations at national meetings.
- Structured analyses independently, from question definition and data collection through estimation and interpretation.

Research Assistant, Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania, Greece (Sep 2019–May 2021)

- Quantified environmental impacts of food-consumption changes on land use, water use, emissions, and biodiversity using agricultural and environmental data from FAO, Eurostat, and national statistical agencies.

Junior Financial Analyst, Arab Tunisian Bank (ATB), Tunisia (Jul 2016–Aug 2018)

- Collected, reviewed, and organized financial and business information from client files and prepared analysis summaries for business clients and credit review.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics 2021–2025

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Risk Management and Production Economics

M.S. in Business Economics 2018–2020

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania, Greece

Environmental Economics

B.S. in Business Administration, Major in Finance 2012–2016

Tunis Business School, Tunisia

Minor: Accounting

TECHNICAL & ANALYTICAL SKILLS

Econometric Analysis

Panel-data modeling, program evaluation, and production efficiency analysis

Risk & Insurance Analysis

Weather-risk measurement, insurance performance, and coverage selection

Geospatial & Survey Analysis

Spatial data integration, geocoding, satellite and weather data, and producer surveys

Programming & Data Tools

R, Python, Stata, SQL, Excel, MATLAB, SAS

Machine Learning

Regression, classification, clustering, and model evaluation