



**Hong Luo, Ph.D.**  
**Professor, Genetics and Biochemistry Department**

- Has been at Clemson since 2006
- Research focuses on gene discovery in grasses and cereal crops
- Received the 2013 Clemson University Godley-Snell Agricultural Award for Excellence

Hong Luo earned a bachelor's degree in agronomy and a Master's degree in molecular biology and plant genetics and breeding. Luo then went on to receive a Ph.D. in molecular biology from the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. Prior to joining Clemson, he was the Director of Research at HybriGene, Inc. where he developed the first genetically engineered, environmentally safe, male-sterile and herbicide-resistant turfgrass. Dr. Luo also developed a new method for hybrid crop production using site-specific DNA recombination systems. His research now focuses on gene discovery in cereals and grasses, and genetic improvements of perennials and row crops. Dr. Luo's long-term goal is to genetically improve major crop species and develop new cultivars with significantly enhanced quality and yield. From 2014 to 2016, Luo served as the Society for In Vitro Biology (SIVB) Plant Biotechnology Section Program Committee Co-Chair and Chair.

Visit Dr. Luo's [faculty page](#).



*The mission of the Sonoco FRESH initiative is to develop innovative solutions by engaging the collective intellectual capital and purposeful collaboration of experts from academia, industry and thought leaders across the entire food value chain.*