

In Partnership with the Consulate General of Peru in Utah

The Metamorphosis of Peruvian Quinoa:

From Marginalized Indigenous Staple to Global Superfood



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WED | 13 MAY 2026

Rick Jellen is Professor of Genetics in the BYU Department of Plant & Wildlife Sciences. He joined the faculty in 1996 as a small grains geneticist and, four years later, initiated research on quinoa, a pseudocereal native to Peru, where he had served in the early 1980s as a full-time missionary. He teaches advanced scientific writing and international agricultural development and is co-director of the Malawi Development Internship program. His research focuses on breeding quinoa with its wild North American ancestor, pitseed goosefoot, to improve quinoa's adaptation for global production.



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