

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

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[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Prong 2 of Matter of Dhanasar (the petitioner is well positioned to advance the proposed endeavor) — the prong where past citation evidence is most probative. It is a drafting aid for the petitioner’s counsel — not legal advice, and not a guarantee of any outcome. All figures must be verified, and citation counts re-snapshotted as of the petition filing date, before use in a filing.

A. Overview & Filtering Statement

22	22	5	24
Citing papers mapped	Citation edges	Home papers mapped	h-index (GS)

Filtering statement – methodology & limits

Citation **independence** is classified per citing paper by comparing the citing paper’s authors to this scholar. *Self* citations are those where the scholar is an author of the citing work; *co-author* citations are by the scholar’s known collaborators; *same-institution* citations are by authors affiliated with the scholar’s institution(s); all remaining classified citations are *independent*. Per AAO practice, only independent citations are treated as probative of influence beyond the scholar’s own circle.

Known limitations – counsel must verify. (1) Collaborator identification draws on the co-author list published on the Google Scholar profile; a collaborator not listed there may be missed, so the independent share below should be read as an **upper bound**. (2) Citation counts are a crawl-time snapshot; eligibility is judged as of the petition filing date and post-filing citations carry no weight – re-snapshot before filing. (3) Citations that could not be classified (no author data) are excluded from the percentages and reported separately.

B. Citation Independence

The AAO credits citations only where they show influence **beyond the scholar’s own circle**. Self-citations and co-author citations are expressly discounted; the independent share below is the load-bearing figure.

90.9% independent of 22 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	20
Self-citation	0
Co-author	2
Same-institution	0

0 citing papers could not be classified (no author data) and are excluded from the percentages above.

C. Significant Contributions & Their Citation Evidence

Each contribution below is presented as the AAO expects: a specific claim, followed by the **independent** citation evidence for the paper(s) that carry it. Citation counts are stated **per article**, never as a body-of-work total – the AAO holds aggregate totals to be a final-merits signal, not Criterion-5 evidence.

Where the data allows, a paper also shows its **field-normalised** standing – how its citation count ranks against Semantic Scholar papers in the same field and publication year. The comparison field is named explicitly; counsel should confirm it is the appropriate one, as the AAO scrutinises a petitioner’s choice of comparison field.

Contribution 1

Claim – Contribution 1

The researcher established a landscape-scale framework for managing biodiversity and ecosystem services amidst agricultural intensification, as evidenced by a seminal 2005 paper with over 6,000 citations.

The researcher’s primary contribution is the development of a landscape-level perspective for balancing agricultural intensification with biodiversity and ecosystem service management. This work is anchored by the 2005 paper titled 'Landscape perspectives on agricultural intensification and biodiversity–ecosystem service management,' which serves as the foundational text for this line of inquiry.

This line of work appears to address the critical challenge of reconciling food production demands with ecological conservation. By shifting the analytical scale to the landscape level, the researcher likely provided a novel conceptual framework that moves beyond site-specific studies, offering a broader approach to sustainable land-use planning and policy.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its extensive uptake in the scientific community, with the core paper accumulating over 6,000 citations. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that this framework has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader global research community outside the author’s immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

[Landscape perspectives on agricultural intensification and biodiversity–ecosystem service management](#)

2005 · 6,001 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,163 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Environmental Science papers from 2005 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Crop and landscape heterogeneity increase biodiversity in agricultural landscapes: A global review and meta-analysis (2024)	CREAF and CSIC, Edinburgh Napier University, Estación Biológica de Doñana EBD (CSIC)	China, France, Germany	—
2	Beyond organic farming – harnessing biodiversity-friendly landscapes (2021)	Centre for Ecological Research, University of Göttingen, University of Hohenheim	China, Germany, Hungary	—
3	Complex agricultural landscapes host more biodiversity than simple ones: A global meta-analysis (2022)	Bioversity International	—	—
4	Food in the Anthropocene: the EAT–Lancet Commission on healthy diets from sustainable food systems (2019)	Centre for Science and Environment, Harvard T H Chan School of Public Health, Heartfile	Germany, India, Pakistan	—
5	Root traits as drivers of plant and ecosystem functioning: current understanding, pitfalls and future research needs. (2021)	Adam Mickiewicz University, Centro de Edafología y Biología Aplicada del Segura - Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CEBAS-CSIC), CNRS	Austria, Canada, China	—
6	Insect Declines in the Anthropocene. (2020)	University of Connecticut	United States	—
7	Global trends in antimicrobial use in food animals. (2015)	Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy, Interna-	Kenya, United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		tional Livestock Research Institute, Princeton University		
8	Sustainable agricultural practices for food security and ecosystem services. (2022)	Dankook University, Sultan Qaboos University, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur	Australia, Oman, Pakistan	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* – ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) – the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher established a foundational framework linking habitat fragmentation to species loss and biological control efficacy, as evidenced by a seminal 1994 paper with over 1,100 citations.

The researcher’s primary contribution centers on the 1994 publication titled ‘Habitat fragmentation, species loss, and biological control.’ This work serves as the cornerstone of their research line, addressing the complex interplay between landscape structure, biodiversity decline, and ecological management strategies. The title suggests an early and critical examination of how fragmented habitats impact both species persistence and the effectiveness of biological control agents.

This line of work appears to address a significant gap in understanding the cascading ecological consequences of habitat fragmentation. By connecting structural landscape changes to functional ecological outcomes like biological control, the researcher likely provided a novel theoretical or empirical basis for conservation and pest management practices. The absence of follow-up papers by the same researcher indicates that this single publication stands as a definitive, self-contained contribution to the field.

The significance of this work is underscored by its substantial citation count of 1,120, indicating widespread recognition and utility within the scientific community. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been adopted and built upon by the broader global scientific community rather than just the researcher’s immediate circle. This high level of independent uptake confirms the work’s broad impact and foundational status in the field.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

[Habitat fragmentation, species loss, and biological control](#)

1994 · 1,120 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 829 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Environmental Science papers from 1994 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Habitat management to conserve natural enemies of arthropod pests in agriculture. (2000)	Michigan State University	United States	—
2	Managing ecosystem services: what do we need to know about their ecology? (2005)	Princeton University	United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* – ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) – the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

Contribution 3

Claim – Contribution 3

The researcher established the critical conservation value of small habitat fragments for insect communities in grassland-cropland landscapes, a finding that has significantly influenced ecological research and conservation practice.

The researcher’s seminal 2002 paper, titled ‘Contribution of Small Habitat Fragments to Conservation of Insect Communities of Grassland–Cropland Landscapes,’ serves as the foundational work for this contribution. This study addresses the ecological role of minor habitat patches within agricultural systems, a topic of considerable relevance to landscape ecology and biodiversity preservation.

This line of work appears to address a critical gap in understanding how fragmented habitats support insect biodiversity in mixed-use landscapes. By focusing on small fragments, the research challenges or refines prevailing assumptions about the minimum viable habitat size required for conservation, offering a nuanced perspective on landscape management in agricultural contexts.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 756, indicating widespread recognition and utility within the scientific community. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, underscoring the work’s broad impact and acceptance beyond the researcher’s immediate institutional or collaborative network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

[CONTRIBUTION OF SMALL HABITAT FRAGMENTS TO CONSERVATION OF INSECT COMMUNITIES OF GRASSLAND–CROPLAND LANDSCAPES*](#)

2002 · 756 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 550 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Environmental Science papers from 2002 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Global pollinator declines: trends, impacts and drivers (2010)	University of Reading	United Kingdom	–
2	Effects of Habitat Fragmentation on Biodiversity (2003)	Carleton University	Canada	–
3	Rethinking patch size and isolation effects: the habitat amount hypothesis (2013)	Carleton University	Canada	–

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* – ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) – the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Reading	United Kingdom	SCImago #1453 · THE 201–250 · QS =194	3

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	3
Carleton University	Canada	SCImago #1952 · THE 501–600 · QS 781-790	3
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Sweden	SCImago #1525 · THE 351–400	3
Wageningen University	Netherlands	—	3
University of Göttingen	Germany	THE =122 · QS 243	2
Princeton University	United States	SCImago #386 · THE =3 · QS =25	2
Michigan State University	United States	SCImago #436 · THE =105 · QS 161	2
University of California, Davis	United States	SCImago #194 · THE 64 · QS =114	2
Cornell University	United States	SCImago #61 · THE =18 · QS 16	2
Universidade Federal de Goias	Brazil	SCImago #3850	1
Université Clermont Auvergne	France	SCImago #2678	1
Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University	China	SCImago #4167 · THE 601–800 · QS 1001-1200	1
Wageningen University and Research	Netherlands	THE 66 · QS =153	1
University Of Gottingen	Germany	THE =122 · QS 243	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

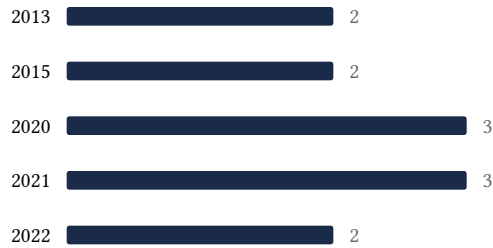
Country	Citing papers
United Kingdom	10
United States	9
Germany	7
Canada	5
Australia	3
Netherlands	3
China	3
Sweden	3
Pakistan	2
Switzerland	2
France	2
Spain	2

Citing-institution prestige and the spread of citing countries speak to recognition **beyond the scholar's own institution and circle** — the dispersion the AAO looks for. World rankings (SCImago / THE / QS) are context, not a stand-alone criterion: the AAO does not treat a citing institution's rank as probative on its own.

E. Citation Growth Over Time

Distinct citing papers by publication year. Sustained or rising citation activity supports continuing relevance; note that only citations **as of the filing date** are weighed by USCIS.

2010  3



F. AAO Precedent Considerations

Pre-filing self-check (AAO denial patterns)

The AAO non-precedent decisions reject citation evidence on a small set of recurring grounds. Confirm the petition addresses each before filing:

- Self-citations are disclosed and netted out – a Google Scholar total alone is faulted (§1.1).
- Evidence is per individual article, not a body-of-work aggregate total (§1.2).
- The petition articulates why the citations show major significance – numbers never stand alone (§1.5).
- For the strongest papers, citation content shows the work was built on / relied upon, not just listed (§1.6, §2.2).
- Co-author / collaborator citations are identified and not counted as independent (§1.7).
- Recognition is shown beyond the scholar's own institution and circle (§1.8).
- Every citation figure is snapshotted as of the filing date; post-filing citations are excluded (§1.9).
- Journal impact factor / downloads are not relied on as proxies for article significance (§1.10, §1.12).
- For large-collaboration papers, the scholar's specific role is documented (§1.13).
- Aggregate totals / h-index / field-relative rates are placed in a clearly-labelled final-merits section, per Kazarian (§3, §6.1.7).

Disclaimer

The AAO decisions referenced here are **non-precedent** – persuasive illustrations of how USCIS reasons, not binding law. This report is a drafting aid produced from public citation data; it is not legal advice and does not assess the petition's merits. All analysis must be reviewed by qualified immigration counsel.

G. Citation Evidence Index

Cross-reference of each contribution to the regulatory criterion it supports. Counsel should map these to the petition's exhibit numbers.

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 1	Landscape perspectives on agricultural intensification and biodiversity–ecosystem service management	8	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Habitat fragmentation, species loss, and biological control	2	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 3	CONTRIBUTION OF SMALL HABITAT FRAGMENTS TO CONSERVATION OF INSECT COMMUNITIES OF GRASSLAND-CROPLAND LANDSCAPES*	3	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)