### University of Idaho

College of Engineering

# Objective

This project aims to create a flash evaporation system to dehydrate mustard seed extract, which can be used as a biopesticide.

## Background

- Mustard plants produce many useful chemical products
  - Oils that can be processed into biodiesel and glucosinolates
- Drying methods available
  - Drum dry, freeze dry, and spray dry
  - Freeze drying currently takes three days for a 10-gallon batch

# **Concept Development**

The idea was presented by Dr. Popova from a method of drying tomato sauce

- Pump to Pressure Sprayer
- Pressure sprayer already designed for small particulates



Powder product

# Dehydrating Mustard Seed Extract Leslie Hurtado, Sophia Bowen, Dr. Ina Popova, Brian He

#### The Current Design



#### **Key Requirements**

- Product should be at least 50% dry
- Reduce drying time by at least half
- No large drop in glucosinolate yields due to thermal degradation
- No chemicals due to organic farming use
- Handle up to 10 gallons of product a day

#### Validation

- Testing the System in Parts
  - Sprayer time to empty
  - Nozzle setting
  - Heat gun temperature settings

• Water first, then mustard seed extract



EHS wants to test the fumes for potential hazards to the operator

#### **Value Proposition**

Mustard seeds contain glucosinolates, a compound which contributes to plants' defense against pests. Extractions of this compound would provide an organic alternative to pesticides. A shelf stable powder can be extracted as a byproduct of mustard seed-based biodiesel production.

#### **Summary & Conclusions**

- Started testing with sprayer and water
- Selecting necessary materials and associated costs
- Building our design and making sure everything is what Dr. Popova had in mind

#### Acknowledgements

Thanks to Dr. Ina Popova for sponsoring the project. Additional thanks to Dr. Brian He, Dr. Dev Shrestha, Kirk McKenzie, Bishal Bhattarai, Chad Dunkel, & Mark Borth

