POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
REQUISITION #493398

Title: Soil Microbiologist

Location: Southwest Florida Research and Education Center
University of Florida
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
Immokalee, Florida

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit additional materials by November 2, 2015. The position will open until a viable applicant pool is determined.

Duties and Responsibilities

This is a 12-month tenure-accruing position that will be 70% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) and 30% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service), available in the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit. Research and extension programming should address soil microbiological impacts on nutrient accumulation and plant health related problems in citrus and vegetable production, better understanding of soil organic matter transformations, nutrient availability, root loss associated with Huanglongbing (HLB) disease, and interactions with soil borne pathogens and pests. Programmatic areas include: soil microbial activities related to transformation and fate of agricultural nutrients; microbial interactions to alleviate negative environmental impacts of soil and water contaminants; soil-plant-bacterial relationships leading to improved yield or resistance to biotic or abiotic stresses; and the impacts of composted organic materials, humic acid and humate products on root health of citrus and vegetables.

Tenure will accrue in the Soil and Water Sciences Department. Because of the IFAS land-grant mission, all faculty are expected to be supportive of and engaged in all three mission areas—research, teaching, and extension—regardless of the assignment split specified in the position description. The faculty member will participate actively in undergraduate education and graduate education by chairing graduate committees, serving on graduate committees, supervising thesis and dissertation research, supervising undergraduate research, and publishing the results with his/her graduate students. The faculty member will seek contract and...
grant funding actively to support his/her program. The faculty member will engage in Extension activities in his or her program area.

**Qualifications**

A doctorate (foreign equivalent acceptable) in Soil and Water Science or a closely related discipline is required. Postdoctoral experience is desirable. Candidates should have demonstrated skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships, and procurement of extramural funding. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability.

**Background Information:**

The University of Florida (http://www.ufl.edu) is a Land-Grant, Sea-Grant, and Space-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 50,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (http://ifas.ufl.edu) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (http://cals.ufl.edu), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station (http://research.ifas.ufl.edu), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service (http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu), the College of Veterinary Medicine (http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu), the Florida Sea Grant program (http://www.flseagrant.org/), and encompasses 16 on-campus academic departments and schools, 12 Research and Educational Centers (REC) located throughout the state, 6 Research sites/demonstration units administered by RECs or academic departments, and Florida Cooperative Extension Service offices in all 67 counties (counties operate and maintain). The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. IFAS employs over 2500 people, which includes approximately 900 faculty and 1200 support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation’s largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Senior Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee. The Southwest Florida Research and Education Center (SWFREC) is located one mile north of Immokalee and approximately 35 miles southeast of Fort Myers, Florida. Presently, SWFREC supports seven faculty programs and a staff of more than 60 people. Active research programs in vegetable production, water management, crop nutrition, pest management, plant pathology, agricultural economics, and citrus horticulture occur on 320 acres of research facilities at SWFREC, including approximately 60 acres of citrus groves. The faculty and staff of SWFREC serve a vibrant commercial agricultural region. Agricultural enterprises in citrus, beef cattle, vegetables, and sugarcane collectively produce more than $800 million of annual sales. Presently there are about 125,000 acres of citrus produced in the five-county southwest region surrounding the Center.

**Employment Conditions**

This position is available November 2, 2015 and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.
Nominations

Nominations are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee. This information should be sent to:

Application Information

- Individuals wishing to apply should go online to https://jobs.ufl.edu and submit:
  - Application
  - Cover letter that states applicant’s interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above
  - Curriculum vitae

- Official transcripts showing receipt of the doctoral degree and three letters of recommendation should be sent to:

Please refer to Requisition # 493398

Kelly T. Morgan, PhD
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Southwest Florida Research and Education Center
2685 State Road 29 N
Immokalee, FL 34142

Telephone: 239-658-3413
Facsimile: 239-658-3403
Electronic Mail: conserv@ufl.edu

Final candidate will be required to provide official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered “official” if a designation of “Issued to Student” is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), which can be found at http://www.naces.org/.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The selection process will be conducted in accord with the provisions of Florida’s ‘Government in the Sunshine’ and Public Records Laws. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.