University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS): MS Assistantship in Soil and Water Sciences

A MS research assistantship is available Fall, 2019 through the Soil and Water Sciences Department. This project will focus on plant-soil interactions of warm-season perennial forage grass (*Paspalum notatum* Flüeggé with warm-season, perennial legume (*Arachis glabrata* Benth.) cultivars.

The MS candidate will help determine how plant diversity may affect soil composition and health. This effort is part of a larger, multi-disciplinary project (representing soil nutrient management, soil microbiology, forage management, and forage breeding/genetics) to address “Scaling up the microbial-triggered functional responses to multiple practices in forages: molecules to ecosystem services”. Experience with word processing and spreadsheets, applied statistics, agronomic soils research, and field and laboratory equipment are preferred. Expected outcomes include publication of the research in peer-reviewed journals, presentation of research at local, and national meetings, development of educational materials, and participation in extension and educational programs. This graduate research assistantship is supported by the USDA/NIFA program.

Inquiries regarding this opportunity should be directed to Dr. Cheryl Mackowiak, echo13@ufl.edu; phone 850-526-7126.