Ph.D. position available – Sustainable nutrient management in vegetable systems

A Ph.D. graduate assistantship is available at the University of Florida to work on sustainable nutrient management in vegetable systems. The research will focus on how to optimize nutrient management in vegetable production of Northern Florida, using legume cover crops, organic amendments and other management practices. The research will likely combine different experimental approaches – field trials, greenhouse experiments, and laboratory incubations – and focus on several indicators of crop productivity, nutrient cycling, and soil health, with a strong emphasis on carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus cycling. Interactions between nutrient management and other practices (e.g., irrigation, crop rotation) could also be investigated. The exact scope of the research will be determined based on the student’s qualifications and interests.

A strong background in biogeochemistry, soil science and/or plant sciences, with a degree in a related field (ideally Master’s), is preferable. Experience in conducting independent research in a field and/or lab setting, including statistical analysis and publication of experimental results, is also desirable. The research will include field work conducted in hot and humid conditions during the Florida summer, and candidates should be comfortable working in these conditions.

A graduate assistantship is available to support this position for four years – stipend, tuition waiver, and health care coverage. The expected start date is Fall 2020, at the University’s main campus in Gainesville (FL). Complete application packets are due by January 2, 2020. Instructions on how to apply to graduate school in the Soil and Water Sciences Department can be found at https://soils.ifas.ufl.edu/academics/graduate-studies/apply/.

If interested, contact me directly at maltaislandryg@ufl.edu.