

PhD student assistantship at the University of Georgia to quantify soil health benefits of a living mulch cropping system

The soil pedology lab at the University of Georgia seeks a motivated PhD student interested in soil health, dynamic soil properties, row crop production systems, and spatial modeling. This work is part of a multi-institution project focused on a corn-clover management system in comparison to other cover crop practices to evaluate the effects on soil health/soil quality measurements for a variety of soils in Georgia. These properties include a combination of chemical, physical, and biological properties like carbon and nitrogen dynamics, water infiltration rate, and soil fertility.

The position is available immediately with the most likely start date at the beginning of the spring 2020 semester. We offer a competitive graduate student salary and significantly reduced tuition.

Required qualifications: Completed M.S. in soil science, crop science, agriculture, natural resources, or similar field by start date. The student will be expected to collect soil samples and conduct physical, biological, and chemical assessments of soil health in both field and laboratory settings. A positive attitude and willingness to collaborate with an interdisciplinary team of researchers is required.

Desired qualifications: Experience and interest in common cropping systems and general agricultural practices is highly desirable. Familiarity with dynamic soil properties, soil health, soil survey, and proficiency with computer software for statistical, geographic information systems, and carbon modeling applications is highly desirable.

To apply: Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to send a current resume, statement of interest, unofficial transcripts, GRE score, and TOEFL score if applicable to Dr. Matt Levi at matthew.levi@uga.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until a suitable candidate is found. The UGA graduate college deadline for Spring 2020 applications is November 15, 2019 for domestic applicants and October 15 for international applicants, but applicants are encouraged to make contact prior to these dates. More information is available at <http://cropsoil.uga.edu/graduate/financial-aid-and-assistantships.html>. Applicants must meet necessary requirements for admission to The University of Georgia (<http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/prospective-students/domestic-application-information/requirements/>). A successful candidate must be in high academic standing and have a competitive GRE score for admission.