Cropping Systems Assistant – University of Florida

The University of Florida West Florida Research and Education Center in Jay, FL seeks a full time Cropping Systems Assistant. The WFREC research unit consists of 640 acres and is located about 12 miles north of Milton near Jay, FL (Lat 30.776657°, Long -87.141633°), where research is conducted on cropping systems, weed science, entomology, golf and sports turf management, landscape and nursery management, forestry, and wildlife ecology.

The Cropping Systems Assistant will report to the Cropping Systems Specialist (Dr. Michael J. Mulvaney) with day-to-day supervision by the Cropping Systems Senior Laboratory Technician. Activities include implementing and maintaining research plots for row crop production (e.g., cotton, peanut, corn, wheat, soybean, sesame, carinata, etc.) for field production (fertilization, soil sampling, recordkeeping, harvesting, data collection and entry), maintenance of farm and laboratory equipment, and executing field and laboratory protocols. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, land preparation, study initiation, research plot maintenance, scouting for pests, proper pesticide application, scheduling, and supervision of temporary workers and graduate students. The work is approximately 80% field-based and 20% laboratory-based.

The incumbent will also handle labor requests and scheduling necessary for research and demonstration activities, work with graduate students and farm personnel, and develop and maintain databases related to the projects.

The incumbent must obtain a public pesticide applicators license within 60 days from hire date. A criminal background check will be conducted prior to employment.

Remuneration will be commensurate with experience. Typical starting pay for this position is $17-20/hour, but will be adjusted for relevant experience. Due to UF policy, this position is employable for up to two years at full time employment. The incumbent may choose to enroll in limited benefits, including:

- Medical insurance
- State Supplemental benefits (dental, vision, cancer/intensive care, & hospital plans)
- 403(b) or 457 voluntary savings plans

Minimum requirements for the position:

- Ability to operate and maintain tractors and associated equipment (sprayers, combines, planters, etc.)
- Excellent planning skills (weekly work schedules, research prioritization, etc.)
- Experience in agricultural crop production
- A can-do attitude
- A hands-on, common sense approach to problems
- Ability to ask questions and work well with others
- Detail oriented and well organized
- Interest in research and crop production
- Ability to work in all weather, particularly heat

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience in a research environment
- Computer literacy (primarily Excel)
- B.S. or M.S. degree in an agriculturally-related discipline.

To Apply for This Position:
Email resume to Dr. Michael J. Mulvaney at m.mulvaney@ufl.edu. Indicate in subject line “Cropping Systems Assistant.” Contact Dr. Mulvaney with questions related to this announcement (850-382-5221).