

**Position #** 00012916

**Job Title:** Research Assistant II

**Job #** 531118

**Full-Time Position in Jay, Florida Santa Rosa County**

Veterans' Preference Eligible

**Department:** 60820000/AG-WFREC-Jay

**SUMMARY OF POSITION ROLE/RESPONSIBILITIES:**

As Research Assistant II you will play a critical role in collecting field and lab data in experiments related to nutrient management including the Florida Stakeholder Engagement Program (STEP). This is a time limited position. Position is three-year time-limited with the possibility for extension depending on availability of grant funding. This position involves working closely with the project lead and team members to ensure the smooth execution of research activities related to nutrient management in agriculture. The successful candidate will contribute to data collection, analysis, and reporting, as well as assisting with project logistics and communication. Reliable handling of samples, spectral instruments, and data will be critically important. An individual in this position possesses excellent skills to communicate efficiently with project members, supervisor, and growers/farmers. A proactive attitude to work independently performing assigned tasks, and to meet project milestones are expected.

**JOB DESCRIPTION:**

Independently and meticulously conduct research techniques in the field. Collect plant and soil samples and prepare them for lab analysis. Use of a GPS to collect geographic coordinates (latitude/longitude) at sampling sites. Troubleshoot equipment issues and make appropriate adjustments. Collect additional field observations (e.g., soil and crop images). The employee may be required to present data to the lab, the stakeholder community, at extension field days or at a scientific conference or similar. Employee will be responsible to drive a state vehicle to and from research sites.

Data organization and management of data collected from the field and must be protected and organized in a way that allows for efficient movement of data from location to location. Independently conduct laboratory procedures including data entry/upload of plant and soil data, spectral data, and field observations into a database.

Determine best method for data integration from multiple data strains to support model development. Must understand data collected from various instruments used in the study. Responsible for the data section of quarterly reports to granting agency and other project milestones.

Communicate with project participants and team members on logistics and timing of treatment application in STEP competition. Communicate with farmers/growers if they want to visit trail area. Coordinate with industry representatives regarding products and procedures for testing. Writing reports, newsletters, prepare presentations and assist with extension and school visits

UFGO: Travel authorizations, entry of receipts, and reimbursement. Manage lab and field supply inventory for multi-year national study. Mailing of soil samples to laboratory

**SUPERVISION**

This position does not supervise others.

**NORMAL WORK SCHEDULE**

40 hours per week.

Occasional seasonal extended hours based on crop season and field sampling times.

**OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POSITION**

Must have physical strength and ability to walk to field sample locations and collect soil samples in various weather conditions (heat and cold). Driving skills. Ability to pay attention to data/sample handling to minimize human error.

**COMMUNICATION**

Communicate efficiently with team members in a large project on regular basis (weekly or 2+ times a month)

dependent on project needs)

**MONETARY RESPONSIBILITY.**

Timely submission of receipts for supplies and travel into UFGO

**STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONFIDENTIAL DATA.**

Compliance with data policies of UF, State of Florida, and research project. Reliability to collect samples and enter/upload data correctly into database.

**CREATIVITY, STRATEGY AND LEADERSHIP.**

Ability to coordinate field data collection and communicating with stakeholders.

**EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE**

**Minimum Qualifications:**

A bachelor's degree in an appropriate area of specialization and four years of experience; a masters degree and two or more years of experience or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

BS or MS in soil science, ecology, natural resources, environmental sciences or related discipline. Experience in soil sampling and proficiency in databases (e.g., Excel spreadsheets and SQL)

**REQUIRED LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS, AND OTHER SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF LAW.**

Florida Restricted Public Pesticide License required within 6 months from hire date; Valid Florida Driver's License. This position requires a criminal background check.

**EXPECTED SALARY:** Commensurate with education and experience \$45,600 - \$50,000.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS:**

To be considered, you must upload your cover letter and resume'.

This position is eligible for veteran's preference. If you are claiming veteran's preference, please upload a copy of your DD-214 Member Copy 4 with your application for consideration. See our Veteran's Preference page (<https://jobs.ufl.edu/resources.html>) for more specific information.

Application must be submitted by 11:55 p.m. (ET) of the posting end date.

Health Assessment Required:           **No**

Please visit [UF Careers Santa Rosa County FL](#) to apply.