

Cropping Systems Assistant – University of Florida, Jay, FL

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. Hardeep Singh](#)) with day-to-day supervision by the Cropping Systems Senior Laboratory Technician. Activities primarily involve data collection from research plots during row crop production (e.g., cotton, peanut, corn, wheat, soybean, sesame, cover crops, etc.). The position will also help implement and maintain research plots for field production (laying out research plots, soil sampling, fertilization, scouting, recordkeeping, harvesting, data collection and entry, data analysis if the incumbent is capable, maintenance of farm and laboratory equipment, and executing field and laboratory protocols). The incumbent will also respond to labor requests as necessary for research and demonstration activities, work with farm personnel and graduate students from diverse backgrounds and develop and maintain databases related to the projects. The work is approximately 70% field-based and 30% laboratory-based. On the job training will be provided as needed.

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. Women, minorities, individuals with disabilities and veterans are encouraged to apply. Successful candidates must be committed to working with diverse student and community populations.

Typical starting pay for this position is \$13-18/hour based on relevant experience, but remuneration will be commensurate with experience. The position will be subject to a 3-month probationary period. Due to UF policy, this position is employable for up to two years at full time employment. After that time, options for continued employment are available through TempForce of Gainesville. 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:

- Computer literacy (Microsoft Excel, Teams, Word, Outlook)
- Ability to think critically, ask questions, and work well with others
- A can-do attitude
- Scientific curiosity about crop production systems
- A hands-on, common sense approach to problems
- Excellent planning skills (weekly work schedules, research prioritization, etc.)
- Detail oriented and well organized
- Interest in research and crop production
- Ability to work in all weather, particularly heat
- Ability to occasionally lift 50-lb bags of fertilizer and seed
- A valid US driver's license

Preferred Qualifications:

- B.S. or M.S. degree in an agriculture-related discipline.
- Experience in agricultural crop production
- Experience with plant science (classroom or field)
- Experience in a research environment and data collection
- Ability to operate and maintain farm equipment (tractors, sprayers, combines, planters, etc.)

To Apply for This Position:

To apply, fill out the OPS application found on our website ([Link](#)) and email completed form and resume to Dr. Hardeep Singh at hardeep.singh1@ufl.edu. Indicate in subject line "Cropping Systems Assistant." Contact Dr. Singh with questions related to this announcement (405-762-2539).