GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP AVAILABLE

Agronomy

Soybean is grown on over 1.5 million hectares in the Mid-Atlantic, USA. Double-cropping soybean after small grain represents about half of those hectares. Due to a later planting date and less canopy development, double-cropped soybean yields less than the full-season (April/May-planted) soybean. Through a United Soybean Board funded project, efforts are continuing to sustainably increase double-cropped soybean yield and improve overall Mid-Atlantic cropping systems profitability.

Assistantship support is available for one highly motivated doctoral student to lead a multi-state project, the goal of which is to increase yield and profitability of double-cropped small grain-soybean systems. Support is available to start in either spring or summer of 2014. The student will reside on campus in Blacksburg during the academic year, be affiliated with the Crop & Soil Environmental Science (CSES) Department, and spend summers at the Tidewater Agricultural Research & Extension Center (TAREC) in Suffolk, VA (summer housing is provided). The TAREC and CSES Department offers ample resources for student research in crop and soil sciences, including extensive laboratory and field equipment, opportunities to collaborate with a wide variety of colleagues within and beyond Virginia Tech, and access to a wide variety of natural and managed ecosystems for study. This position also offers opportunities to be involved with Cooperative Extension programming efforts and develop Extension presentations, publications, and educational materials.

Students would work under the advisement of Dr. David Holshouser, who is located at the TAREC in Suffolk, VA. Research will be field based, but may include some greenhouse and laboratory experiments. A background in agronomy, crop & soil science, environmental science, or other agricultural related field is required. A M.S. degree that includes college level training and work experience with agronomic research and field research techniques is preferred. For more information about this position, please contact: David Holshouser, Tidewater AREC, 6321 Holland Rd, Suffolk, VA. E-mail: dholshou@vt.edu or Phone: (757) 657-6450 ext. 412 or Mobile: (757) 355-2972.

To formally apply for this position, go to https://gradapp.stl.vt.edu/pages/login.php and supply the following materials and documentation: (a) copies of transcripts of all graduate and undergraduate coursework, (b) contact information for three references, (c) GRE scores, (d) a written personal statement and (e) a short personal vita. International students will also need to provide TOEFL scores. Information about our department and research programs is available at http://www.cses.vt.edu/. General inquiries about graduate studies should be directed to W. Lee Daniels (wdaniels@vt.edu; 540-231-7175).