

A Soil Health postdoctoral researcher position is available that will coordinate a project to identify differences in soil health status across various land uses (agriculture cropped, hay and pastureland, forest, and urban/suburban ecosystems) in Connecticut, and to determine the resistance and resiliency of these soils when subjected to abiotic stress. The successful candidate will evaluate field assessment and laboratory methodologies to assess their utility in detecting changes between management systems and to assess the reliability and precision of the methods through systematic comparison of results between university and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff (field methods) and university laboratories and the USDA-NRCS Kellogg Soil Survey Laboratory (KSSL). The postdoctoral researcher will also provide measurements of a standard set of use dependent soil properties on one or more benchmark soils and soil landscapes and include that information in national soils database maintained by NRCS. There will be opportunities for the postdoctoral researcher to develop their own line of research within the context of the project.

The postdoctoral researcher will work as part of a team involving scientists from the University of Connecticut, City University of New York and Brooklyn College, and the NRCS. The candidate will be responsible for: coordinating, implementing and maintaining field and laboratory experiments, data summarization, statistical analyses, drafting progress and technical reports, creating presentations of project results, drafting scientific journal manuscripts, and training and supervising graduate and undergraduate student employees.

The position is funded for 2 years. Salary at US\$50,000/yr.

#### Minimum Qualifications

- An earned doctorate by date of hire in soil science, agronomy, agroecology, soil ecology, environmental science, or closely related field is required.
- Demonstrated experience and training in soil science.
- Demonstrated ability to conduct, analyze, and interpret research results.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively communicate in oral and written formats.
- Must have a driver's license or be able to obtain one.
- Physical endurance to collect soil samples by hand at multiple locations.

#### Preferred Qualifications

- Demonstrated experience and training in soil health and/or applied soil ecology.
- Demonstrated experience in field and laboratory methods for soil CO<sub>2</sub> respiration associated with microbial activity.
- Demonstrated experience in statistical analyses using SAS and/or R software.
- Strong publication record in refereed journals.
- Experience obtaining extramural funding and mentoring graduate and/or undergraduate students.

Send the following via email attachments to Dr. Karl Guillard ([karl.guillard@uconn.edu](mailto:karl.guillard@uconn.edu))

- Cover letter explaining qualifications and career interests
- CV
- Copy or academic transcripts (official transcripts required upon hire)
- Contact information for three different references.

Please put "NRCS postdoc application" in the subject line of the email.

Review of candidates will begin immediately and continue until a suitable candidate is appointed. It is anticipated that the selected candidate will begin January 2020, though earlier or later employment will also be considered.