



College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Agricultural Experiment Station
Cooperative Extension Service
Agricultural Science Center at Clovis
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Postdoctoral Research Associate - Cropping Systems, Soil C and Nutrient Cycling

The position is associated with New Mexico State University, Agricultural Science Center (ASC) Clovis. Cropping Systems and Soil Management laboratory at ASC Clovis focuses on increasing efficiency and profitability of agricultural systems while improving environmental quality and agricultural sustainability. The candidate will assist with field and laboratory works in tillage, cropping system intensification, and forage systems research evaluating soil organic carbon and nutrient dynamics and associated biogeochemical processes. The candidate is expected to have the enthusiasm to learn and assist in developing economically and biologically sustainable cropping systems, able to design and establish experiments, collect soil and plant samples from on-station and on-farm plots, analyze various soil/plant properties, run the statistical analysis, and write manuscripts. The candidate is expected to have excellent oral and written communication skills and capability to work independently as well as in collaborative environment.

Purpose of Classification:

The candidate must be able to work in a multicultural environment and create an environment that fosters collegiality, diversity, and teamwork. Have knowledge of field research and interest in running laboratory equipment. Ability to manage multiple projects at the same time, prioritize tasks, and meet deadlines. Ability to work with a diverse group of people, excellent in verbal and written communication.

Responsibilities:

- Utilization of research equipment such as planters, sprayers, harvesters, Giddings and other soil probes, laboratory equipment including C/N analyzer, nutrient analyzers, and handheld computers for note-taking
- Planning and management of field activities including, planting, harvest, soil sampling, and laboratory analysis
- Keep a record of project activities and provide necessary reports to the project leaders including plan of work, and report of accomplishments
- Take leadership in running cropping systems and soil management laboratory
- Occasional supervision of temporary workers and graduate/undergraduate students
- Data collection, data entry, quality control, and analysis for soil and plant data collected from the field, greenhouse, and laboratory research
- Review of relevant literature and preparation of manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals

Desired Skills/Experience:

- Broad knowledge of crop production and farming practices
- Knowledge of soil C and N cycling in agroecosystems
- A demonstrated ability to work independently and with others is essential.

- Evaluations and documentation of field and laboratory activities, good record keeping of field activities
- Excellence in statistical analysis and scientific writing

Minimum Qualifications:

- Doctoral degree in soil science, agronomy, or related disciplines

Interested candidates should send a single pdf file containing the following documents to Dr. Rajan Ghimire (rghimire@nmsu.edu): (i) a cover letter, (ii) curriculum vitae, and (iii) list of three references including names, email addresses, and telephone numbers. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.