Postdoctoral research associate position in turfgrass breeding and genetics

Research involves genomic and phenotypic approaches in the genetic study of drought tolerance in St. Augustinegrass. This project is supported by a multi-institutional NIFA grant on improving drought tolerance and sustainability of turfgrasses used in southern landscapes through the integration of breeding, genetics, physiology, economics, and outreach. The researcher will be involved in organizing, analyzing and interpreting field and research data developed previously and/or currently through this grant.

The position will be based in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at NC State. However, there will be interaction with researchers at University of Florida, The University of Georgia, Oklahoma State University, Texas A&M University and University of California Riverside who are collaborators on the grant. Travel to participate in annual group meetings and to present results at appropriate conferences is expected.

Qualifications: A PhD in plant breeding or related field is required. The following skills listed would be beneficial to applicants in this position: Basic and advanced programming in R, Python, SQL or SAS; data manipulation for database management and dataset input for statistical analysis; experimental design in applied field research; data modeling algorithms (supervised and unsupervised) including but not limited to linear and logistic regression, cluster and factor analysis, support machine vectors, decision trees and random forests, neural networks, principal component analysis and other dimension reduction approaches; the interpretation of analytical research findings; development and exhibition of meaningful visualizations for the promotion of the research findings; presenting scientific research to broad audiences i.e. academic researchers, commodity groups, farmers, graduate and undergraduate students, etc.; and excellent organizational skills. Strong record of publication ability and collaborative research are a plus.

Application materials required: Cover letter, curriculum vitae, contact information for references. To submit application please go to jobs.ncsu.edu and search for position 00107790. Any questions please free to email Jeff Dunne (jcdunne@ncsu.edu) or Susana Milla-Lewis (susana_milla-lewis@ncsu.edu). Applications will be accepted until November 30, 2019 or until a suitable candidate is identified.

NC State University is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as an individual with a disability, or status as a protected veteran.