

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Blueberry Breeder (Faculty)

DESCRIPTION: The Department of Horticulture (www.hort.uga.edu), The University of Georgia, is seeking applicants for an Assistant Professor of Horticulture with responsibilities in Blueberry breeding. The position is a nine-month tenure track position with an 80% Research and 20% Extension appointment. The incumbent will be expected to establish a research and extension program that will use traditional and modern plant breeding techniques to address high priority problems/issues in blueberry breeding; provide training, resource materials and technical assistance to county extension agents; procure extramural funding; publish research findings; and regularly participate in other scholarly and departmental activities including participation in and support of graduate education. The candidate will be expected to have national recognition for their efforts and interact effectively with growers, industry leaders, government agencies, grower organizations, as well as other disciplines, and develop regional cooperation when feasible. The position will be located at the University of Georgia Tifton Campus, Tifton, Georgia. Frequent automobile travel to a variety of sites, including many rural locations, is expected of the position. The incumbent must collaborate and work cooperatively with other scientists, county faculty, and industry clientele as well as have excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Georgia is ranked No. 4 in the nation for blueberry production, and the potential for growth in the industry is strong. Blueberries had a farm gate value of \$220 million in 2019 and contributed \$612 million to Georgia's economy. Research and education in this field is critical to developing new varieties, staying ahead of production challenges, and maximizing economic impact.

LOCATION: Department of Horticulture, UGA-Tifton Campus. Located within a 3-hour drive from 4 flagship college campuses, the UGA-Tifton campus is home to 105 scientists and more than 200 support staff. On-campus resources include office, laboratory, greenhouse, irrigated research orchard and agricultural machinery.

THE DEPARTMENT: The Department of Horticulture at UGA consists of 29 faculty members situated in a stimulating, multi-campus environment with an excellent reputation in research, extension and teaching. The three campuses of the University of Georgia (Athens, Tifton and Griffin) are multidisciplinary, multi-agency facilities with access to well-equipped research farms throughout the state. Opportunities for collaboration within the UGA Blueberry Team and with colleagues in other departments and institutions are plentiful and encouraged.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must have a Ph.D. in Horticulture or closely related field.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: The incumbent must collaborate and work cooperatively with other scientists, county faculty, and industry clientele as well as have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Preference will be given to candidates with a record of research and/or extension programming excellence. Preference will also be given to candidates with a background in cultivar development. For Associate Professor the successful applicant must qualify for the rank of Associate Professor according to

https://provost.uga.edu/resources/documents/Horticulture_2015.pdf.

APPLICATIONS: Applicants should submit the following documentation in electronic format at <https://www.ugajobsearch.com/postings/237448>: (1) a letter of application, (2) curriculum vita, (3) unofficial transcripts (4) a list of 4 references with contact information including email address, (5) a 1 to 2-page statement of research accomplishments and future goals, and (6) a 1 to 2-page statement of extension philosophy, accomplishments and future goals.

Inquiries regarding the position should be sent to:

Dr. Cecilia McGregor
Email: cmcgre1@uga.edu
Phone: 706 542 2471

To assure full consideration, applications must be received by 30 January 2022. The expected start date is 1 June 2022 and the position will remain open until filled. The University of Georgia is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages applicants regardless of gender or ethnic background. The University requests your voluntary completion of our demographic inquiry found at: <http://eoo.uga.edu/forms/eoo-voluntary-disclosure-form>, which is used for monitoring our efforts. **This information will only be used for Equal Employment Opportunity reporting purposes and your personal information will not be shared with the search committee.**

Effective January 1, 2008, the Board of Regents has enacted a “background check” policy for new hires in the system as a condition of employment. This policy can be found at: www.policies.uga.edu/FA/nodes/view/1124/Background-investigations. Upon offer of employment, you must complete the “Consent for a Background Investigation” form.

The University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or protected veteran status. Persons needing accommodations or assistance with the accessibility of materials related to this search are encouraged to contact Central HR (facultyjobs@uga.edu). Please do not contact the department or search committee with such requests.
