

Position Description

Associate/Full Professor of Hybrid Rice Breeding

Position: Associate/Full Professor of Hybrid Rice Breeding, Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center, Beaumont, Texas, USA

Appointment: 100% research. Salary and appointment will be highly competitive and commensurate with experience.

Qualifications: A Ph.D. in plant breeding, genetics, or a closely related field is required. The incumbent must have strong communication skills, a demonstrated ability to integrate advanced phenotyping and model- and marker-assisted selection, as a leading member of a highly integrated hybrid-breeding program, and a record of outstanding scholarly research and/or professional accomplishment related to cultivar/hybrid development and releases. Evidence of strong quantitative analytical skills is expected. Expertise with development and use of DNA markers and other genomic methods for the improvement of grain quality and disease resistance is desirable as a complement to the position's primary responsibilities.

Duties and Responsibilities: The primary focus of this position is to optimize the selection of plant traits that control yield and grain quality, and to identify and incorporate genes that provide for superior seedling cold tolerance and resistance to other abiotic and biotic stresses. The program will quantify parental line combining ability for key yield and quality controlling traits, coordinate the development of markers for these traits, expand quantitative understanding of the underlying physiological processes responsible for superior yield performance, and improve the accuracy, reliability, and speed of advanced phenotyping, model- and marker-assisted selection. The incumbent is expected to develop a nationally and internationally recognized research program as measured by release of superior performing hybrids and parental lines, production of quality peer-reviewed publications, and development of fundable competitive grants. The incumbent is also expected to develop strong partnerships with other leading rice scientists worldwide.

Funding: The hybrid rice breeder position is funded by Texas A&M AgriLife Research. Start-up funds and 5-years of support funds for staff and program operations are provided by the Texas Rice Research Foundation. Continuing support is anticipated but is conditional upon major progress in quantifying the combining ability of key yield and grain quality controlling traits, developing locally adapted male sterile, maintainer, and restorer lines with superior combining ability for yield and grain quality controlling traits, and implementing a cutting-edge advanced phenotyping rice crop model- and marker-assisted selection program that produces superior performing hybrids.

Supervisor: Dr. Lloyd T. Wilson, Professor and Center Director, Jack B. Wendt Endowed Chair in Rice Research, Texas A&M University System

Location and Facilities: The incumbent will be a faculty member located at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center, Beaumont, Texas, USA, and will be promoted through the incumbent's department with Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA. The Beaumont Center and its satellite station at Eagle Lake house about 45 scientists, research and administrative support staff, and students. Research expertise includes inbred and hybrid rice breeding, whole plant physiology, soils and plant nutrition; insect, weed and disease management; integrated cropping systems management; and cropping systems modeling. Facilities include about 960 acres of land at Beaumont and 114 acres of land at Eagle Lake. Office, laboratory and greenhouse space, and land for field research will be provided.

Closing Date: October 31, 2016 or until a suitable applicant is found

Application Packet: Application materials must be submitted via the following website: <https://greatjobs.tamu.edu>. NOV# 09721. Please refer to the NOV for complete information. Applicants are also encouraged to email a copy of their application to bmorace@aesrg.tamu.edu.

Applications should contain the following:

- A letter that summarizes the candidate's expertise, unique qualifications for the position, and a 5-year research plan for the position. If the candidate lacks required or preferred qualifications, then provide a description of how these deficiencies will be overcome.
- A curriculum vitae that contains the following:
 - A summary of university degrees and relevant graduate and post-graduate research and training
 - A summary of employment history
 - A list of released germplasm, cultivars and/or patents, with a description of the role the applicant played in developing each
 - A list of publications (complete list of authors, year, title, journal, volume, pages) separated by peer-reviewed journal papers, book chapters, abstracts, and non-refereed papers, with a description of the role the applicant played in producing each publication
 - A list of grants and gift awards, including authors, the year each grant was funded, funding duration, title, total award amount, amount attributed to the candidate, granting agency, with a description of the role the applicant played in developing each
 - A list of graduate students and post-docs trained, and the focus of research conducted under your supervision
- PDF copies of up to 5 publications and 2 grants produced by the applicant to demonstrate strengths relevant to the position
- A list of up to 5 external references qualified to assess the candidate. Provide name, title, affiliation, physical address, phone number, and email address for each.
- A document that shows the candidate is a U.S. citizen or can be legally employed in the United States. If such a document is not available, explain why obtaining such a document is highly likely and the steps you anticipate taking to do so.

Contact Person: Communications relating to this position should be sent via email to:

Ms. Brandy Morace
(bmorace@aesrg.tamu.edu)
Administrative Assistant
Texas A&M AgriLife Research
Beaumont, Texas, USA

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