

M.S. Graduate research assistantship (GRA)

Crop Physiology and Water Stress

Department of Plant Sciences, University of Tennessee

Location: Coursework will be undertaken in Knoxville, with field research required in Jackson, TN

Responsibilities: The University of Tennessee is seeking a M.S. student to conduct crop physiology and water stress research. The primary project focus will be on row crops (incl. soybean, cotton, and corn). We seek a motivated, enthusiastic and conceptually driven individual to work in controlled (greenhouse) and field environments. Experiments will be designed to help understand the impact of environmental changes, including water deficit and heat stress influences on water movement in plants, plant physiological responses, and plant-water-soil interactions. Opportunities for teaching, outreach, and travel to professional meetings will be available.

Students in Plant Sciences at the University of Tennessee are expected to understand and be ethical in the conduct of their research. The successful candidate will have a B.S. degree in agronomy, plant science, or closely related field; should have strong written and oral English skills; will be willing to work with a diverse group of faculty, staff, and students to conduct field and controlled environment (greenhouse and laboratory) research. Interested applicants should be prepared to share their Intellectual curiosity and demonstrate their motivation and desire to learn on-the-job. Additional highly desirable qualifications that applicants can address in the letter of interest include experience in row crops, strong organizational skills, ability and self-motivation to work independently while accomplishing high quality tasks in a timely fashion.

Closing Date: Screening of applicants will begin immediately and continue until filled. Domestic applicants may have the opportunity to matriculate in Fall 2019 semester, or may be able to undertake summer hourly employment prior to Spring 2019 semester enrollment. International applicants may begin as early as Spring 2019, depending on when complete applications are received.

Contact: Please contact Dr. Avat Shekoofa (ashekoof@utk.edu) if interested in this opportunity. Applicants will need to prepare a letter of interest, C.V. and contact information for three references that will be a part of their online application. Information about acceptance into the graduate school at the University of Tennessee can be found at: www.gradschool.utk.edu

The University of Tennessee is a land grant university with an enrollment of over 27,800. The Plant Sciences Department is located on the Agricultural Campus with lab facilities, greenhouse space, and nearby field space to support active production research. The University of Tennessee also has ten research and education centers which facilitate statewide agricultural research. **Knoxville, Tennessee** is a vibrant community, with a population of approximately 183,270. This community boasts a thriving music and arts scene, along with plenty of opportunities for outdoor adventures in the nearby Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Useful web sites to learn more about the University of Tennessee and the city of Knoxville:

The University of Tennessee: www.utk.edu

Department of Plant Sciences: www.plantsciences.utk.edu

UT Agronomic Variety Trials: www.varietytrials.tennessee.edu

UT Crops: www.utcrops.com