The Department of Plant, Food, and Environmental Sciences in Dalhousie University’s Faculty of Agriculture invites applications for a tenure stream Assistant Professor position with Teaching (40%), Research (40%) and Service (20%) responsibilities. We are seeking outstanding candidates with a demonstrated track record of expertise related to linking biodiversity and food security. The successful candidate will commence as early as July 1, 2021.

Agricultural practitioners are at the same time providing food security, supporting economic development, and stewardship of the terrestrial landscape. While global food security is one of the greatest challenges facing agriculture, agriculture is also recognized as one of the primary contributors to global biodiversity loss. Loss of these services provided by biodiversity can subsequently reduce food security and disrupt sustainable food systems through decreasing the safety and availability of regionally produced food.

The successful candidate will teach and conduct research related to sustainable food production systems, specifically focusing on the interface and trade-offs between UN Sustainable Development Goals 15 (Life on Land) and 2 (Zero Hunger). Within the context of global climate change, research may include: analysis of the links and trade-offs between agricultural food security and ecosystem services provided by biodiversity; development of food systems that maintain or enhance biodiversity; landscape scale analysis of agricultural land use patterns and their impact on biodiversity; and/or study of how crop diversity impacts food security.

About the Opportunity

The successful candidate will be evaluated on their potential to become an international leader in the field of agroecology and will be expected to develop a strong externally funded, internationally recognized research program for training graduate and undergraduate students. The candidate will be a multidisciplinary researcher who has demonstrated potential to collaborate with faculty members from across all departments in the Faculty of Agriculture. We seek a team-player and team-builder who can forge synergies within and among academia, government research institutions, industry, and other stakeholders within and beyond the Atlantic Region. We want a clear and stimulating communicator who can inspire students, support Faculty initiatives, serve on Faculty committees, and participate in growing the reputation of the Faculty and University.
The successful applicant must:

- Hold a PhD in Agroecology or a closely related discipline such as applied ecology, environmental sciences, or other disciplines with a demonstrated link between agriculture, environment, and food security;
- Demonstrate an ability or potential to acquire research funding through grant-writing and publish in peer-reviewed scientific journals;
- Demonstrate experience in, or potential to, teach effectively at an undergraduate level, and
- Demonstrate potential to become an international leader in their field, and potential to develop a strong externally funded program including Tri-Council funding (https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/).

Desirable assets include:

- Eligibility for membership as a Professional Agrologist in Nova Scotia,
- Demonstration of professional development related to teaching, and
- Experience teaching to international students.

A complete application package for this position should include:

- A cover letter summarizing qualifications and experience related to this position (2 pages maximum).
- A detailed CV.
- A prospective research plan which includes your approach to EDI* (3 page maximum).
- A statement on teaching interests, experience, and philosophy which includes your approach to EDI* (2 page maximum)
- Reprints of three recent publications related to agronomy or a closely related discipline.
- Names, addresses and emails of three references (applicants selected for further consideration will be notified before referees are contacted).

*EDI A statement relating to how equity, diversity, and inclusivity will be integrated and promoted within your teaching and research (up to 2 paragraphs in each of your teaching and research statements).

The Faculty of Agriculture (http://www.dal.ca/faculty/agriculture.html) is on the Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus, located in Truro, Nova Scotia. The Faculty offers technical, undergraduate, and graduate (M.Sc. & Ph.D.) programs in agriculture, aquaculture, environment, and related life and social science disciplines, and is home to approximately 1,000 students and 50+ professors, including current and past Canada Research Chairs. Dalhousie University is the leading graduate and research university of Atlantic Canada, with more than 18,500 students, including 3,500 in graduate programs, from 115 countries.

The Department of Plant, Food, and Environmental Sciences is home to a vibrant team of scientists and instructors focused on four priority areas: environmental sciences and
agroecology, plant and horticultural sciences, food science, and landscape architecture (https://www.dal.ca/faculty/agriculture/plant-food-env.html).

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Dalhousie University is committed to fostering a collegial culture grounded in diversity and inclusiveness. The university encourages applications from Indigenous persons, persons with a disability, racially visible persons, women, persons of a minority sexual orientation and/or gender identity, and all candidates who would contribute to the diversity of our community. For more information, please visit https://www.dal.ca/hiringfordiversity.

Dalhousie University recognizes that career paths can be diverse and that career interruptions may occur. Applicants are encouraged to include, in their cover letter, an explanation of the impact that any career interruptions may have had on their record of research achievement.

Dalhousie University recognizes its obligation to accommodate candidates in order to ensure full, fair, and equitable participation in the hiring process. Our complete Accommodation Policy can be viewed online at: https://www.dal.ca/policies.

For further information regarding this position, or to request accommodation at any stage of the hiring process, please contact the Chair of the selection committee, Dr. Andrew Hammermeister, Faculty of Agriculture: andrew.hammermeister@dal.ca. Review of applications will begin 18 March 2021 and continue until the position is filled.

Open Date: 02/16/2021
Close Date: 03/18/2021
Open Until Filled Yes
Quick Link for Direct Access to posting: http://dal.peopleadmin.ca/postings/5123

Documents Needed to Apply

1. Résumé / Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Cover Letter
3. Teaching Statement
4. Research Statement
5. Sample Publication(s)
6. List of referees