M.S. Assistantship: Red Oak and Poplar Whole-Plant and Molecular Responses to Flooding

College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Arkansas at Monticello

The College of Forestry, Agriculture & Natural Resources at the University of Arkansas at Monticello is seeking applicants for a M.S. Assistantship available beginning August 16, 2022. The assistantship is half time and carries an annual stipend of $15,000 plus tuition.

Project: Red oak species are key components of bottomland hardwood ecosystems that are facing management challenges. This M.S. student’s thesis will include two-components. The first study will determine the effects of fully submerging red oak seedlings on growth and biomass allocation. The second study will investigate how different winter soil temperatures affect root growth of poplar and red oak seedlings, and key biochemical and molecular responses to cold soil temperatures. The knowledge from these studies will aid conservation and management decisions, especially for afforestation and artificial regeneration in bottomland hardwood forests of naturally flooded forests and greentree reservoirs. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to learn relevant greenhouse and laboratory techniques, participate in related field work, and to work with scientists and representatives from state and federal conservation agencies to develop scientifically informed management recommendations for conservation and restoration of bottomland hardwood forests.

Requirements: Applicants must have a 2.7 overall undergraduate GPA or 3.0 GPA in the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate courses and satisfactory GRE scores. A B.S. degree in a natural resources-related field is also required. Applicants must have a valid U.S. driver’s license or obtain the same within 60 days of starting employment. Overnight travel is required as well as the ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions. Preferred start in June 2022, but will consider August 2022.

Location and Facilities: The College of Forestry, Agriculture & Natural Resources is located in Monticello, Arkansas in the southeastern portion of the state. The Arkansas Forest Resources Center is also headquartered here, and is administered by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. The Arkansas Forest Resources Center is the research and extension arm for forest-based programs within the State. Additionally, the USFS Arkansas Forestry Sciences Lab is located at the School. The School and Center maintain several state-of-the-art laboratories (hydrology, soil, quantitative analysis, silviculture, wildlife ecology & management) available for graduate research and education.

Application & Additional Information: Graduate program and application information can be found at https://www.uamont.edu/academics/CFANR/grad-degrees.html. Applicants must be admitted to the University of Arkansas at Monticello and apply to the College of Forestry, Agriculture & Natural Resources before they can be considered for an assistantship. Applicants must submit all GRE scores, official transcripts, a statement of interests, and three letters of recommendation. Please indicate the position number above on all application materials and inquiries. For additional information, please contact:

Dr. Benjamin Babst, babst@uamont.edu 870-460-1348.

The position is available until a qualified applicant is selected.

UAM is an Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer