

Title: Postdoctoral Research Associate

Location: University of Florida/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, Immokalee, FL

Position description:

A postdoctoral position is available with the Soil Microbiology Lab at the University of Florida/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee, FL, to examine the impact of agricultural management practices on the soil microbiology of citrus groves. The SWFREC is located in the heart of citrus and vegetable production in Florida and provides a unique opportunity to combine scientific research with the needs of the industry.

The project, which includes greenhouse and field studies, will evaluate the efficacy of soil microbial amendments on the improvement of tree root growth and nutrient uptake. The project will focus on integration of microbial community composition, soil chemistry, root metabolism, and plant growth data. Expertise in environmental microbial ecology, molecular methods, and bioinformatics is required. Experience in high-throughput amplicon sequencing, qPCR, and shotgun metagenomics is preferred.

The incumbent will develop hypotheses based on current literature, design and conduct experiments, perform work in the laboratory, greenhouse, and field, analyze data, and prepare manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals. The postdoctoral associate will work independently with minimal supervision. This is a one-year position, but may be extended up to three years, dependent on funding.

Responsibilities:

- Experimental design
- Sample collection and processing
- Data analysis and interpretation
- Review of relevant literature
- Preparation of manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals

Minimum qualifications:

- PhD in bioinformatics, environmental microbiology, microbial ecology, or biogeochemistry
- Expertise in bioinformatics for environmental microbiology
- Experience with unix/command line
- Evidence of effective scientific writing and publication in English

Preferred qualifications: Experience in soil microbiology, experience with R, proficiency in programming (perl or python), experience with grant writing

Advertised salary: \$50,000 plus benefits

Open date: September 1, 2017, but application review begins immediately

Special instructions to applicants:

Interested persons should submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and a list of 3 references, including contact information, to **Dr. Sarah Strauss** (strauss@ufl.edu).