



Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Agronomy Department

Agronomy Department  
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<http://agronomy.ifas.ufl.edu>

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 0000-2433  
REQUISITION # 0905025

Title: ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF AGRONOMY  
EXTENSION INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Location: AGRONOMY DEPARTMENT  
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE (IFAS)  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

Salary: COMMENSURATE WITH QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Position Open To: For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit supporting materials by April 16, 2014. The position will remain open until a viable applicant pool is determined.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

This is a 12-month tenure-accruing position, appointed as 60% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service) and 40% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station), available in the Agronomy Department, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. The assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit. Tenure will accrue in the Agronomy Department.

The extension component of this position (60%) includes development of methods for the integrated management of invasive plants in aquatic, wetland, and upland natural area habitats and dissemination of information and training for county extension faculty, state and federal agency personnel, commercial herbicide applicators, and individuals in the private sector who have an interest in the control of invasive plants. The position will be located at the Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants (CAIP) in Gainesville, FL with access to extensive laboratory and field facilities as well as the CAIP Aquatic and Invasive Plants Information Office (<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>). The incumbent will maintain close liaison with state, federal, county and municipal land management programs such as the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida's five Water Management Districts, and Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAS). Of particular importance will be the recognition of agency needs for information and training and providing assistance as necessary. The training

component will include development of short courses, workshops, and writing EDIS publications (extension bulletins), newsletters, and information sheets as necessary. The incumbent, in cooperation with the Pesticide Information Office, will maintain updated training manuals, exam questions, and other information needed for Restricted Use Pesticide Applicator certification/recertification training and provide training opportunities in cooperation with County Extension Offices. The incumbent has the opportunity to cooperate with educational programs developed by the CAIP Information Office and with established programs in other departments, such as Florida Master Gardeners and Florida Friendly Yards. This position requires close coordination of research and extension programs with faculty in several other disciplines including Fisheries, Forestry, Entomology and Horticulture as well as with research/extension staff at Research and Education Centers throughout the state.

The research component of this position (40%) will focus on relevant independent research on invasive plant management in aquatic, wetland and upland habitats and cooperative research with other faculty working on invasive plant management. Research will be, predominantly, of an applied nature aimed at solving practical invasive plant problems faced by aquatic and natural areas managers. The focus will be on developing management options – including herbicide recommendations and application techniques – that can be integrated into invasive plant management programs. In addition to applied research, more fundamental studies on the biology, physiology, or ecology of invasive plants may be conducted. The incumbent is expected to obtain extramural funding, direct graduate student research, and publish research findings in the scientific literature.

Because of the IFAS land-grant mission, all faculty are expected to be supportive of and engaged in all three mission areas—Research, Teaching and Extension—regardless of the assignment split specified in the position description.

**BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:** Doctor of Philosophy degree (foreign equivalent acceptable) with emphasis in weed science, natural resource management, forest science, plant ecology, horticulture or related plant science discipline with knowledge of aquatic and/or upland invasive plant management. Post-doctoral experience is desired but not necessary.

Candidates must possess the ability to communicate, organize, and motivate people and promote learning as well as being able to establish good relationships among diverse groups. Prior experience in invasive plant management, plant identification, and plant ecology is desirable.

**OTHER INFORMATION:** The Agronomy Department of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) has faculty working in all aspects of the discipline including invasive plant management, plant biology, physiology and ecology. The Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants (CAIP) maintains close relationships with all faculty working on invasive plants including those in Entomology and Nematology (biological control), Horticultural Sciences, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, and Forestry which provide extensive opportunities for multi-disciplinary projects.

Florida state agencies, water management districts, counties and other public entities spend over \$50 million annually for control of invasive plants in Florida and rely heavily on IFAS faculty and staff for development of control methods and educational opportunities.

The University of Florida (<http://www.ufl.edu>) is a Land-Grant and Sea-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 50,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (<http://ifas.ufl.edu>) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (<http://cals.ufl.edu>), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station (<http://research.ifas.ufl.edu>), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service (<http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu>), the College of Veterinary Medicine (<http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu>), the Florida Sea Grant program (<http://www.flseagrant.org/>), and encompasses 17 on-campus academic departments and schools, 13 Research and Educational Centers (REC) located throughout the state, 6 Research sites/demonstration units administered by RECs or academic departments, and Florida Cooperative Extension Service offices in all 67 counties (counties operate and maintain). The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. IFAS employs over 3400 people, which includes approximately 950 faculty and 2450 support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation's largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Senior Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

### **Nominations**

Nominations are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee. This information should be sent to the address below.

### **How to Apply:**

- Individuals wishing to apply should go online to <http://jobs.ufl.edu/postings/49740> and submit:
  - Application
  - Cover letter that states applicant's interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above
  - Curriculum vitae
  - The contact information of three people who are willing to write letters of recommendation (an electronic request for a letter will be automatically sent to references when the application is submitted)
- Transcripts showing receipt of the doctoral degree should be sent to:

Jason Ferrell (*Refer to Requisition # 0905025*)  
Chair, Search and Screen Committee  
University of Florida  
Agronomy Department  
1425 Museum Rd/P.O. Box 110505  
Gainesville, FL 32611  
Telephone: 352.392.7512  
Facsimile: 352.392.1840  
Electronic Mail: [jferrell@ufl.edu](mailto:jferrell@ufl.edu)

Final candidate will be required to provide an official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered “official” if a designation of “Issued to Student” is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), which can be found at <http://www.naces.org/> .

*The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The selection process will be conducted in accord with the provisions of Florida’s ‘Government in the Sunshine’ and Public Records Laws. Search committee meetings and interviews will be open to the public, and applications, resumes, and many other documents related to the search will be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.*