

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP POSITION IN PRECISION AGRICULTURE

Are you interested in how precision agriculture technologies can improve nitrogen management for producers in Nebraska and beyond? We are looking for a M.S. student or a Ph. D student (with M.S.) to work on a recent project funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). This project, launched in 2020, connects corn and wheat producers across Nebraska with access to cutting-edge technologies through on-farm research. The goal is for producers to get hands-on experience with new technologies to manage nitrogen more efficiently and evaluate how these technologies will work on their operation. As a graduate student working on this project you will have the opportunity to evaluate the economic and environmental implications of different technologies for nitrogen management, learn and apply remote sensing and crop model-based decision support tools, and contribute to improve current nitrogen recommendations for corn and wheat in Nebraska. Activities will include field and laboratory research with soil, and plant sample collection; data analysis; manuscript preparation; and presentation of research results at meetings.

If interested in applying to this position, please submit the following documents: (1) cover letter describing previous experiences relevant to this GRA, and your interest in this position; (2) curriculum vitae; and (3) a minimum of two reference letters preferably emailed separately to lpuntel2@unl.edu by October 15th, 2020. Any questions regarding this position and the application material can be emailed to Dr. Laila Puntel (lpuntel2@unl.edu).

Qualifications: B.S. in Agronomy, Crop Science, Soil Science, Environmental Science, Natural Resource Science, or closely related fields of study. If applying for PhD both a B.S. and a M.S in the related fields of study is needed. Demonstrated excellence in course work and previous field experience. Demonstrated interest in pursuing a career in Soil Science and/or Agronomy. Excellent written and oral communication skills. Ability to work independently and as a team member.

Graduate Research Assistantship Stipend:

Ph.D. Student: Annual Basis - \$27,540
M.S. Student: Annual Basis - \$25,500

Tuition Waiver: A tuition waiver of up to 12 credit hours per semester and up to 6-12 credit hours during summer sessions (depending on previous enrollment) is provided with the GRA.
Health Insurance: Students on assistantships are provided health insurance at a reduced rate.

GRA Availability: January 2021

Application: Formal application for graduate studies is required. Follow the admission instructions at: <http://agronomy.unl.edu/futuregraduate>

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