

Call for applications:
Postdoctoral research position on climate change and nutritional output of California agriculture

Location: University of California, Davis
Deadline to apply: September 30, 2015

Project background

As part of a year-long project funded by the UC Global Food Initiative, we are conducting a study on the impact of climate change on nutritional output of California specialty crops. We are seeking a postdoctoral researcher to lead the proposed work. The successful candidate will work with a diverse team of researchers at UC Davis, the USDA Climate Sub Hub for California, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and UC Berkeley on the question of how changing climate conditions in California might impact the nutritional output of California agriculture, both from the standpoint of production changes (quantity, yield, price) of nutritionally important specialty crops and the nutritional composition of those crops. The successful candidate will synthesize and analyze existing primary research as well as identify and integrate new data sources and conduct further analyses in order to expand current understanding and shape future research directions. The project goals are to produce work publishable in traditional academic journals as well as to communicate and interact with other GFI participants from a variety of disciplines.

Desired qualifications

The ideal candidate will possess excellent written and oral communication skills, the ability to analyze diverse types of data, and the ability to serve as the organizing point of a multidisciplinary team. Relevant experience includes agricultural science, agricultural economics, climate modeling, GIS, nutrition and food science, and ecology. Candidates with experience in two or more of these disciplines will be preferred.

To be considered, candidates must:

- hold a doctoral degree in a relevant field, obtained no later than the position start date and no earlier than September 2010;
- be eligible to work in the United States;
- be fluent in English, as communication is a key aspect of this postdoctoral position;
- be able to relocate to or frequently travel to Davis, California.

Position duration and benefits

The specific start date will depend on the availability of the successful candidate but is expected to be in the fall of 2015. The appointment duration will be 12 months from the start date; the project is expected to be substantially complete by the summer of 2016.

Salary range is between \$42,840 - \$50,112 annually, commensurate with experience. Benefits include health insurance, dental, and vision. For details, see <http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/postdocs>.

How to apply

Please send a cover letter, CV, and contact information for three professional references (one being your dissertation advisor) to Jennifer Nickell (janickell@ucdavis.edu). Materials received by September 30, 2015, will receive full consideration.

Candidates interested in more information on the research project can contact:

- Dr. Peter Nico (psnico@lbl.gov), Staff Scientist, Geochemistry Department, Lawrence Berkeley Lab
- Dr. Kerri Steenwerth (kerri.steenwerth@ars.usda.gov), Research Soil Scientist, Crops Pathology and Genetics Research Unit, USDA/ARS, Davis, CA

Participating organizations

UC Global Food Initiative: The UC Global Food Initiative involves all 10 UC campuses, UC's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, with guidance from a systemwide working group appointed by President Napolitano and the chancellors. The initiative's goal is to harness UC resources to address one of the critical issues of our time: How to sustainably and nutritiously feed a world population expected to reach 8 billion by 2025.

(<http://universityofcalifornia.edu/global-food-initiative>)

USDA Climate Hubs: The Climate Hubs, through USDA and partner programs, offer tools, strategies management options, and technical support to farmers, ranchers and forest land owners to help them adapt to climate change. The Climate Sub Hub in California is part of the Southwest Climate Hub. We have active engagement from multiple USDA agencies, including Agricultural Research Service, Forest Service, Rural Development, Farm Services Agency and the Risk Management Agency. Partners of the Climate Sub Hub in California include UC Cooperative Extension, University of California, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and state agencies such as the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the California Natural Resources Agency. (<http://climatehubs.oce.usda.gov/>)

