

## **Position Announcement: Post-Doctoral Research Associate in Invasive and Ornamental Weed Science, University of Florida**

**Review of Applicants begins on Oct 21 and will continue until a suitable candidate is hired**

### **Position Overview**

**Organization:** University of Florida/Institute Food and Agriculture Science (UF/IFAS), Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants and the Mid Florida Research and Education Center are pleased to announce this joint post-doctoral opportunity.

**Position Description:** We are seeking applications to fill a postdoctoral research associate position jointly shared between the UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants and the Mid Florida Research and Education Center (MREC). The position will be housed at the MREC which is located near Orlando, Florida. This is an exciting opportunity to pursue applied and basic research relating to invasive plant biology and weed management in Florida. This position will be an initial 12-month appointment with a possible extension of two additional years.

The successful applicant will coordinate and conduct field research on novel invasive plant management techniques on the following projects:

- Refinement of the incision point application technique for Brazilian peppertree (*Schinus terebinthifolia*), Chinese tallotree (*Triadica sebifera*), and melaleuca (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*)
- Re-examination of injection systems including the EZ-Ject Lance for Chinese tallotree
- Assessment of novel herbicide mixes for melaleuca in differing hydrologic conditions
- Assessment of glyphosate alternatives for cogongrass (*Imperata cylindrica*)
- Evaluation of glyphosate alternatives for control of invasive plants and weeds in residential landscapes and commercial plant production nurseries
- Determining efficacy and re-treatment intervals for small-leaf spiderwort (*Tradescantia fluminensis*)

Specific operational tasks for the position will involve but are not limited to:

- Plan, design, manage, and conduct field experiments for the aforementioned projects
- Collect, manage, analyze and interpret data from the experiments, and produce publications and reports synthesizing research results in the context of relevant literature
- Develop training modules for technology transfer of the research findings to land managers
- Coordinate undergraduate students and interns assisting in research projects

MREC is located in the Orlando metropolitan area, northwest Orange county and 15 miles from a diverse, multi-cultural downtown and right next to Lake Apopka, one of Florida's largest and encompassing the world famous North Shore wildlife refuge. Housing is affordable and widely available.

**Qualifications:** A Ph.D. degree in weed science, horticulture, ecology, forestry, or a related discipline of plant science with a focus on invasive plants and/or horticultural weed science is required. A strong record of course work and independent research in subjects such as weed and herbicide science, invasion biology, container nursery production, and pest management is critical. Abilities and skills in GIS, statistical analyses, data management and visualization, and scientific writing is desirable. Experience with airboats and other all-terrain vehicles is also desirable. Strong written and verbal communication skills are essential. Applicant must be able to work independently in adverse environmental conditions including wetlands and natural areas in Florida's hot, humid climate. Some overnight travel to visit research sites throughout Florida will be required.

**Salary and benefits:** \$47,481.00 / year + benefits.

**Instructions:** To apply for this position, please submit your application by email to [sfenloe@ufl.edu](mailto:sfenloe@ufl.edu). Applicants must submit: 1) a cover letter explaining your interest in the position and describing your relevant skill set; 2) a Curriculum Vitae; and 3) the names and contact information for three references (References will be requested following review of applicants). Questions regarding the position should be emailed to Dr. Stephen Enloe [sfenloe@ufl.edu](mailto:sfenloe@ufl.edu) or Dr. Chris Marble ([marblesc@ufl.edu](mailto:marblesc@ufl.edu)).

Selected candidate will be required to provide an official transcript 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 \(NACES\)](#).

If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call 352-392-2477 or the Florida Relay System at 800-955-8771 (TDD). Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. The University of Florida is a public institution and subject to all requirements under Florida Sunshine and Public Record laws.

The [University of Florida](#) is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The [Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences](#) is committed to creating an environment that affirms diversity across a variety of dimensions, including ability, class, ethnicity/race, gender identity and expression. We particularly welcome applicants who can contribute to such an environment through their scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and professional service.