GRA: Reducing Nitrate Leaching Through Integrated System Strategies

A M.S. position is available in the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture starting in May 2020, under the supervision of Dr’s. Humberto Blanco and Chris Proctor.

We are seeking a graduate student candidate to work with a team of Researchers and Extension professionals focused on reducing nitrate leaching occurring in corn production systems. The project, funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust, will use three on-farm sites for research and demonstration in northeastern Nebraska. The project that include developing nitrate-loss reduction strategies that focus on improving irrigation and nitrogen management strategies, cropping system selection (including diverse crop rotations and cover crops), and soil health management. The graduate student will also closely work with a graduate student and faculty on the project from the Biological Systems Engineering Department to equip and manage the on-farm sites with modern technology such as variable rate irrigation and sensor networks for monitoring crop and soil conditions in real time. The student will develop skills in precision nutrient management, integrated cropping systems, and soil health management, as well as team and leadership skills from working with a diverse team of researchers, extension specialists, regulatory agencies, and farmers.

Interested applicants should contact Dr. Brian Krienke at krienke.brian@unl.edu for more information. Additional information about a graduate degree in agronomy can be found at agronomy.unl.edu and prior to the position being offered, the candidate will have to be admitted into the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture (https://agronomy.unl.edu/futuregraduate).

Graduate Research Assistantship Stipend:
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: The position is available starting May, 2020, and applications will be screened on a continuing basis till the position is filled.

Application: Formal application for graduate studies is required. Follow the admission instructions at: https://go.unl.edu/gradapp
Deadline: International students- February 15; Domestic students- April 15

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