**GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP**

| POSITION | Graduate Research Assistant (GRA), M.S.  
| Effects of land conversion for biofuel crop production on soil properties and field water budgets |
| JOB DESCRIPTION | We seek an exceptional student to conduct research examining the effects of land conversion for biofuel crop production on soil (biological, chemical, physical) properties and field water budgets. The study compares established perennial and annual systems (switchgrass, miscanthus, sorghum, corn, and fescue) in the Southeastern Piedmont.  
The project will include field applications of soil physics, soil fertility, agronomy, biometeorology, and hydrology.  
Presentation of research results at local, regional, and national meetings will be an important component of training. All graduate research assistants participate in the Department’s teaching program. |
| LOCATION | Department of Soil Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC  
We are unique among our U.S. and international peers due to our broad and intensive expertise spanning land use, agriculture, and environmental protection. Our outstanding faculty and strong collaborations with other scientists at our Research I university and elsewhere make us an internationally-recognized center for innovative research and graduate training. We seek high quality students pursuing careers in soil science and related fields.  
The Raleigh-Durham area consistently ranks among the best places to live in the United States, largely due to its vibrant intellectual community and ample access to recreational and cultural activities. |
| QUALIFICATIONS | B.S. in Agronomy, Soil Science, Plant Science, Horticulture, Environmental Science or closely related field. Demonstrated excellence in course work. Excellent written and oral communication skills. Ability to work independently and as a team member. |
| STIPEND | Annual stipend is $18,000. Tuition and health insurance covered under the Graduate Student Support Plan. |
| HOW TO APPLY: | For further information about this position, please contact:  
**Josh Heitman**, Department of Soil Science, North Carolina State University  
jlheitman@ncsu.edu; (919) 513-1593  
Applications must be submitted online through the NCSU Graduate School (see the “Apply to Graduate School” option at www.ncsu.edu/grad/). |
| DATE AVAILABLE: | May 2016 or until a suitable candidate is identified |

North Carolina State University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and actively seeks diversity among its employees.