Postdoctoral Research Associate
United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS)

The **USDA-ARS, Crop Genetics and Breeding Research Unit in Tifton GA** is seeking a Postdoctoral Research Associate. The research program, under the direction of Dr. Karen Harris-Shultz, is focused on field-, greenhouse, and lab-based experiments, with an emphasis on traits of economic importance to warm-season grasses. Research topics include, but are not limited to, plant and pollinator interactions using metabarcoding, trapping, and visual observations AND genome-wide association mapping to identify SNPs associated with morphological traits in centipedegrass. A recently completed PhD in a related field and relevant publication (s) is required.

The person filling this position will fulfill several essential roles in the program. He/she will help implement current research projects, including field, greenhouse, and lab work. This will require a strong and relevant research background, attention to detail, ability to safely drive and perform work with a truck or SUV, some heavy lifting, and working outdoors. The incumbent will be responsible for summary and interpretation of experimental data. This will require analytical and critical thinking skills, knowledge of standard statistical procedures (SAS, R, etc.), experience with genome- wide association mapping, and proficiency with Microsoft Office.

He/she will be responsible for writing and assembling manuscripts for submission to high quality peer-reviewed journals.

Interest in (and experience with) precision agriculture tools such as robotic or UAV-based technologies is a plus. We are looking for a highly driven, enthusiastic skilled professional, focused on high-quality outcomes.

Application: Please send CV and contact information of three professional references to Dr. Karen Harris-Shultz, Research Geneticist, USDA-ARS, at [Karen.Harris@usda.gov.](mailto:Karen.Harris@usda.gov) Applicants must be US citizens.

Education: Ph.D. degree in Agriculture, Botany, Biology, Crop and Soil Science, Genetics, Entomology, Plant Breeding or closely related field.

Demonstrated excellent verbal and written communication skills. Demonstrated ability to work independently and in a group.