

Announcement and Prospectus

Position: Center Director

East Tennessee Research and Education Center
Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station

POSITION DESCRIPTION and RESPONSIBILITIES

The Director is responsible for the comprehensive administration and management of the East Tennessee Research and Education Center (ETREC). The Director is expected to exert visionary leadership and serve as a catalyst for implementation of innovative research projects; direct the execution of research plans developed by faculty scientists; recruit and promote the professional development of Unit Supervisors and other qualified staff; manage finances and assets; and nurture productive relationships with a wide variety of entities across the Institute of Agriculture and the broader University community, as well as the local community and constituents external to the University. The ETREC functions independently from any single department and reports directly to the Dean of UT AgResearch/Director of the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES). Information about TAES may be found at <http://taes.tennessee.edu> and information specific to ETREC at <http://east.tennessee.edu/>.

MINIMUM REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates must have a graduate degree in a field of agricultural science or relevant area, an established record of conducting and/or directing agricultural research, strong leadership and communication skills, and other personal attributes necessary to manage and direct a research and education center. Candidates must also have a demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of equal employment opportunity and affirmative action.

PREFERRED/DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Preference will be given to those who have an earned doctorate, have a demonstrated ability to administer budgets and manage personnel, and have a background or experience in agricultural or natural resource production/management.

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Nominations of qualified individuals are sought and should be sent electronically to the Committee Chair at the address shown below.

Applications must include: (1) a letter of application summarizing the applicant's qualifications, (2) a complete curriculum vitae, and (3) names, addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of at least five references. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Applications will be reviewed beginning January 15, 2010. The search committee will review and continue to receive applications until an appointment is made.

Nominations, applications and other inquiries should be addressed to:

Dr. Robert Augé
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
Department of Plant Sciences
University of Tennessee
2431 Joe Johnson Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37996-4561
E-mail: auge@utk.edu

All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admissions without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

Eligibility and other terms and conditions of employment benefits at The University of Tennessee are governed by laws and regulations of the State of Tennessee, and this non-discrimination statement is intended to be consistent with those laws and regulations.

In accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, The University of Tennessee affirmatively states that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in its education programs and activities, and this policy extends to employment by the University.

Inquiries and charges of violation of Title VI (race, color, national origin), Title IX (sex), Section 504 (disability), ADA (disability), Age Discrimination in Employment Act (age), sexual orientation, or veteran status should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity (OED), 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, telephone (865) 974-2498 (V/TTY available) or 974-2440. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the Office of Equity and Diversity.

EAST TENNESSEE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER (ETREC)

The East Tennessee Research and Education Center is a field research laboratory headquartered in Knoxville, Tennessee. Employing approximately 40 people, the center includes six different field units and encompasses 1,968 acres.

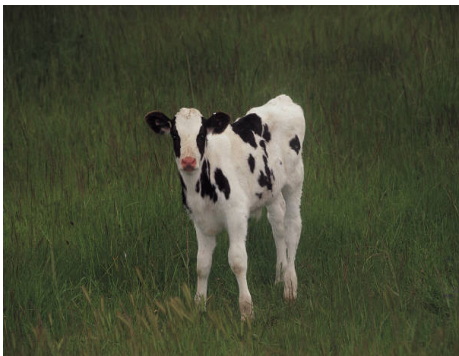
The ETREC is one of 10 research and education centers across the state supported by the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station. The primary role of centers is the execution of research protocols in partnership with faculty scientists. In addition to this core mission, each center has a responsibility to extend outreach and educational programs of the University to clientele through special events and other means. Centers also serve a variety of University teaching activities. A center represents the University in its various capacities and serves as a liaison with the local community, state and federal agencies, as well as public and private organizations and interests.



Blount Unit – This beef and forage research unit supports a well-characterized herd of approximately 150 Angus cows. The 515-acre facility consists mostly of pasture and hay systems, with twenty 3-acre paddocks available for use in forage and grazing studies. This unit contains three cattle working facilities, two of which are covered, two cattle barns with feeding pens and a sheep barn.



Cherokee Unit - This 195-acre unit includes the Johnson Animal Research and Teaching Unit (JARTU), the Lindsay Young Beneficial Insects Laboratory (LYBIL), and the Cherokee Woodlot. The JARTU is a modern animal research and teaching facility that contains over 46,000 square feet of space. Outside space is also available on these grounds, some of which has recently supported mesocosm studies with amphibians. The LYBIL currently rears and releases beneficial beetles that are natural enemies of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, a pest that is harmful to hemlock trees. The Cherokee Woodlot is forested land that is available for use as a teaching laboratory.



Holston Unit - Current research at this 425-acre unit includes a comprehensive weed science and management program, switchgrass management and production for biofuels, wheat breeding, and beef cattle management. Tall fescue, orchardgrass and corn silage are the primary forages at this location, with the capability to grow alfalfa. The Holston Unit also has three cattle handling facilities, each strategically located in relation to pastures.



Little River Animal Environmental Unit - This 530-acre facility is the newest unit of ETREC. Approximately half of the acreage is fertile bottomland and the remainder is hillside pasture. Construction of a 200-cow dairy facility has begun and is scheduled for completion in fall 2010. Animals have not previously been located on this site, which presents a unique opportunity for research to assess the impact of animal agriculture on the environment. Collection of baseline data is presently underway for water quality and runoff, soil fertility, and air quality. Other studies at this unit include surveys of aquatic and wildlife species, weed control, and a human dimensions survey relating to public perception of agriculture.



Organic Crops Unit - The newly named Organic Crops Unit is entering its third year of research and demonstration work in organic crop production. This 90-acre unit contains 21 acres of research plot land; 14 of these acres are currently in transition towards organic certification. Research has been initiated on cover cropping, alternative crops, long-term soil fertility, farmscaping, minimum tillage and season extension. Research facilities at the Organic Crops Unit include a greenhouse and three high tunnels, with four more tunnels currently under construction.



Plant Sciences Unit - Consisting of 212 acres, this site contains highly-fertile, river bottom soils. Current emphases include soybean and corn breeding, row crop and forage variety testing, turfgrass management and weed control, greenhouse studies, and investigations into the use of switchgrass and other plant species for biofuel production. Recent renovations have modernized the facility and include forage/sample dryers, coolers, and expanded space for handling, processing and storage of seeds and other research samples. In 2004, ETREC designated 15 acres to be dedicated to research in turfgrass management. In the last five years, the turfgrass research program has become one of the leading programs in the nation.