

**Title**

Postdoctoral Research Assistant in Plant Ecophysiology

**Description**

A postdoctoral position examining plant physiological responses to environmental variability is available in the lab of Dr. Nick Smith in the Department of Biological Sciences at Texas Tech University. The Smith Lab examines the responses of plants and ecosystems to change in abiotic conditions and the resulting feedbacks from these responses to global change. The successful applicant will join a vibrant group of researchers in the Smith Lab, which is housed within the brand new EcoHealth Lab facility. The postdoc will work closely with an international group of collaborators focused on improving understanding and predictability of plant physiological processes and their feedbacks to ecosystem processes under global change.

The postdoctoral research assistant will be given freedom to explore questions and develop projects pertinent to their interests and experiences. These should be overlap with one or more of the following ongoing themes in the lab:

- Plant physiological acclimation to global change
- Development of quantitative plant ecophysiological theory
- The impact of belowground resource availability on plant physiological processes
- Scaling from leaves to the globe
- Interactions between plants and microbial symbionts and the impact on physiology
- Species and functional type specific responses to global change
- Land surface and Earth system modeling
- Plant resource uptake and use optimization

Within the EcoHealth Lab, the postdoc will have access to state-of-the-art ecophysiological equipment, growth chamber and greenhouse facilities, as well as computational facilities both within the lab and through the University's High Performance Computing Center. The Smith Lab is also part of the Nutrient Network and maintains an active site locally ([lubb.us](http://lubb.us)).

**Responsibilities**

The successful candidate will carry out empirical and modeling research examining plant physiological responses and feedbacks to environmental variability. The specific projects will be tailored to the individual's interests and expertise. The position will also involve mentoring of graduate and undergraduate students in the lab.

**Required Qualifications**

The applicant must have a Ph.D. by the start date with expertise in plant physiology, physiological ecology, global change biology, ecological modeling, or related field.

**Desired Qualifications**

Experience carrying out manipulation experiments examining plant physiological responses is highly desirable. Strong quantitative skills are also highly desired.

**Start Date**

Preference will be given to applicants that can start by May 1, 2021. However, start dates as late as Fall 2021 may be possible.

**Salary**

Salary is expected to be \$54,000 per year plus benefits. Funding is available for three years, but is contingent on satisfactory progress, which will be evaluated at the end of each year.

**How to Apply**

To apply, please submit a CV, a brief description of your research accomplishments and future goals, and the names and contact information of 3 referees to the Texas Tech Brass Ring portal (job number: 23070BR). The direct link to the application is:

[https://sjobs.brassring.com/TGnewUI/Search/Home/Home?partnerid=25898&siteid=5635#jobDetails=582469\\_5635](https://sjobs.brassring.com/TGnewUI/Search/Home/Home?partnerid=25898&siteid=5635#jobDetails=582469_5635).

Review of applications will begin on **March 15, 2021** and will continue until the position is filled.

**Other Information**

Interested applicants are highly encouraged to contact Dr. Nick Smith ([nick.smith@ttu.edu](mailto:nick.smith@ttu.edu)) prior to applying to discuss the position.