Postdoctoral Position in Plant Canopy Micrometeorology

A postdoctoral associate position is available to work at the intersection of plant phenotyping using micrometeorological techniques, plant physiology, and plant breeding in the Department of Plant Biology and the Institute for Genomic Biology at the University of Illinois.

The position is part of an ARPA-e funded project titled “Water Efficient Sorghum Technology (WEST)” which will increase the water use efficiency (WUE) of sorghum, a valuable bioenergy crop. The postdoc will employ micrometeorological techniques to characterize the water use efficiencies for several sorghum genotypes representing wide variation of the traits of interest as well as characterizing the canopy biophysics of genotypes genetically modified to increase water use efficiency.

The ideal candidate will have expertise in plant physiology, micrometeorological techniques, and/or statistics. Responsibilities will include research in the collection and processing of meteorological data, statistical dissection, prediction and validation of physiological phenotypes. The position will involve close collaboration with a dynamic team of engineers, computer scientists, statistical geneticists, and plant physiologists.

Position preferences:

- A Ph.D. in plant biology, micrometeorology, or related discipline with a strong background in statistical methods
- Working knowledge of field instrumentation, data handling, remote sensing and/or geospatial skills
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills with a strong publication record.

Review of applications will begin immediately and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please send cover letter, C.V., and the names of three references to Melinda Laborg (laborg@illinois.edu). Questions regarding the position can be sent to Carl Bernacchi (bernacch@illinois.edu).