

M.S. Assistantship: Carbon and Nitrogen Dynamics in Developing Bioenergy Agroforest Plantations

The School of Forest Resources, University of Arkansas, Monticello has a M.S. Assistantship available beginning in the summer or fall of 2009. The assistantship is half time and carries a stipend of \$15,000 per year plus tuition.

Project: The assistantship will work on a project developing cottonwood/switchgrass agroforest systems for supplying cellulosic bioenergy feedstocks in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley (LMAV). The intent of this



project is to develop a range of agroforest systems that can produce cellulosic feedstocks on marginal land as well as ecosystem services such as wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, nutrient retention, and soil sustainability. Funding for this project is through the Department of Energy and US Department of Agriculture and is a coordinated effort between scientists in Arkansas and Louisiana. The MS assistantship will focus on carbon and nitrogen dynamics in these developing agroforests compared to that in traditional agriculture ecosystems that commonly occur on marginal soils in the LMAV. More project details can be found at the following site <http://www.afrc.uamont.edu/liechtyh/Bioenergy%20Agroforest.htm>

Requirements: A 2.7 overall undergraduate GPA or 3.0 GPA in the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate courses and satisfactory GRE scores (verbal+quantitative ~1000). A B.S. degree in environmental science, biology, soils, agriculture, forestry or a related field is also required.

Research Facilities: The School of Forest Resources houses several modern laboratories that can be utilized by graduate students. These include the water quality/soil laboratory, Spatial Analysis Laboratory (SAL), and wildlife management laboratory. All laboratories are well equipped and utilized for research and instructional activities on a daily basis by students and faculty alike. Application & Additional Information: For additional information or to apply contact Dr. Hal O. Liechty School of Forest Resources, UAM, P.O. Box 3468, Monticello AR 71656. Phone: 870-460-1452, E-Mail: Liechty@uamont.edu.

Graduate materials and information can be found at the following websites:

http://www.afrc.uamont.edu/sfr/graduate_education.htm