POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT #00013977

Title: Assistant Professor – Biological Control of Landscape Pests

Location: Mid-Florida Research and Education Center
University of Florida
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
Apopka, Florida

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: Review of application materials will begin on or before July 23, 2007 and will continue until the position is filled.

Duties and Responsibilities
This is a 12-month tenure-accruing position that will be 70% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) and 30% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service), available in the Mid-Florida Research and Education Center (MREC), Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit.

This faculty member will develop methods for arthropod management in the landscape and nursery. This will include the development of a research program that focuses on augmentation and conservation of biological control agents, but should also incorporate good IPM practices that may include cultural practices, new biological control agents, and safe chemicals. The extension duties of this position will focus on providing homeowners, landscape managers, and landscape plant producers with information on biological control and insect management in the urban landscape. The faculty member will work with county extension faculty in delivering this information. The faculty member will be expected to work closely with an MREC faculty member who works biological control of greenhouse and nursery grown ornamental and vegetable crops and with two MREC faculty who work on landscape establishment and management. The opportunity is available to work closely with other MREC faculty, colleagues in Gainesville and other Research and Education Centers, and industry to develop a nationally competitive research and extension program. The faculty member is expected to publish research results in national and international refereed and non-refereed journals.

Tenure will accrue in the Department of Entomology and Nematology. The faculty member will participate actively in undergraduate education and graduate education by chairing graduate
committees, serving on graduate committees, supervising thesis and dissertation research, supervising undergraduate research, and publishing the results with his/her graduate students. The faculty member will seek contract and grant funding actively to support his/her program. The faculty member may be asked to assist in teaching the entomology classes offered at MREC. All IFAS faculty are expected to demonstrate commitment and responsibility to the three functions of the Land Grant mission. Responsibilities and appointment may change in the future to reflect changing needs.

**Qualifications**
An earned doctorate in Entomology or a closely related discipline is required. Postdoctoral experience is desirable. Training and/or experience in biological control of insects is beneficial. Candidates should have demonstrated skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships, and procurement of extramural funding. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, and accountability.

**Background Information:**
The MREC, [http://www.mrec.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.mrec.ifas.ufl.edu) located in Apopka, Florida, is 15 miles northwest of the Orlando metropolitan area and 30 miles from the Orlando International Airport. MREC is 95 miles from the main UF campus at Gainesville, where the Department of Entomology and Nematology ([http://entnemdept.ufl.edu](http://entnemdept.ufl.edu)) is located. This close proximity allows easy participation in UF/IFAS administrative meetings and other main campus activities. MREC is central to large concentrations of Florida’s diversified ornamental plant and landscape industries producing nursery and indoor and foliage plants. In addition there are nearby fruit and vegetable production operations and many small, diversified farms. Center personnel include 14 faculty and 45 supporting staff, excluding part-time and grant-funded personnel and students. Currently, the interdisciplinary MREC faculty has members specializing in agricultural economics, cut foliage, entomology, landscape ornamentals and indoor foliage plants, landscape management, molecular biology, plant breeding, plant pathology, vegetable culture, viticulture, and weed science.

The University of Florida ([http://www.ufl.edu](http://www.ufl.edu)) is a Land-Grant and Sea-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 48,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences ([http://ifas.ufl.edu](http://ifas.ufl.edu)) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences ([http://cals.ufl.edu](http://cals.ufl.edu)), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station ([http://research.ifas.ufl.edu](http://research.ifas.ufl.edu)), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service ([http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu](http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu)), the College of Veterinary Medicine ([http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu](http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu)), and encompasses 15 academic departments and the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, 9 interdisciplinary centers, 13 research and educational centers throughout the state, and Cooperative Extension units in each of Florida's 67 counties and the Seminole Tribe. IFAS employs over 3400 people, which includes approximately 950 faculty and 2450 support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation’s largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Senior Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.
**Employment Conditions**
This position is available August 27 2007, and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.

**Nominations and Applications**
Both nominations and applications are welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee and should be received by July 1, 2007, to allow sufficient time to contact the nominee.

Individuals wishing to apply should submit the following materials:
- Letter of application that states applicant’s interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above;
- Complete vita (which includes statement of current position and responsibilities);
- Official transcript showing receipt of the doctoral degree;
- Three letters of recommendation.

Review of application materials will begin on or before **July 23, 2007**, and will continue until a suitable applicant is identified. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

**Contact Information and Application and Nomination Submission Information**

Please refer to Position # **00013977**
Dr. Lance Osborne  
Chair, Search and Screen Committee 
University of Florida  
Mid-Florida Research & Education Center  
2725 Binion Road  
Apopka, FL 32703-8504

Telephone: 407.884.2034, extension 163  
Facsimile: 407.814.6186  
Electronic Mail: lsosborn@ufl.edu

*The University of Florida is an equal opportunity and equal access employer. The “government in the sunshine” laws of Florida require that all documents relating to the search process, including letters of application, nomination, and reference, except transcripts, be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.*