

**University of Minnesota**  
**Turfgrass Science Program**  
**Job Posting**

Job Title: Researcher 2

Job ID: 306940

Location: Twin Cities

Full/Part Time: Full-Time

**Qualifications**

Minimum qualifications:

Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture, Agronomy, Soil Science, or related discipline, plus one (1) year of post-graduate field experience working with plants and/or turfgrass. Two years of graduate level work can replace field experience. Experience operating turfgrass and/or agricultural field machinery. Must be able to lift and carry loads of at least 50 pounds and stand/walk for long periods of time. Valid driver's license. A Minnesota pesticide applicators license (Categories A and E) or the ability to obtain one within 60 days of start date.

Preferred qualifications:

Master's of Science degree in Horticulture, Agronomy, Soil Science, or related discipline. Minnesota Class B commercial driver's license. Demonstrated organization skills, and multi-tasking capabilities, and ability to work and communicate effectively with others from a variety of diverse backgrounds. Experience designing and carrying out research studies and analyzing study results is also desired.

**About the Job**

The Turfgrass Science program at the University of Minnesota is part of the Department of Horticultural Science in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences, and the University of Minnesota Extension. At our Turfgrass, Research, Outreach and Education (TROE) Center on the St. Paul campus we conduct research on salt tolerant grasses for roadsides, low-input turfgrasses for cold climates, and turfgrasses for sports such as golf. We have six full time staff, including educators, scientists, and a field manager who support ongoing research and graduate students. More information about our program can be found at: [www.turf.umn.edu](http://www.turf.umn.edu) and [www.horticulture.umn.edu](http://www.horticulture.umn.edu).

**Duties/Responsibilities**

This position provides support for the UMN Turfgrass Science Program. The specific activities will change depending on the needs of the program from week to week but will likely include:

(30%) Work with the Metropolitan Council and municipalities in the Twin Cities area to assess the current state of home lawn irrigation practices through surveys and site visits. Design and construct irrigation systems for irrigation reduction research and demonstration.

(30%) Plan and implement research projects related to salt-tolerant turf establishment on roadsides; this will include working closely with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and turfgrass industry stakeholders. Collect and analyze data and prepare research reports.

(25%) Design and execute trials related to golf course turfgrass management. Collect and analyze data and prepare research reports.

(15%) Assist with the maintenance of turfgrass research plots on the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus and at other research locations throughout the state. Tasks may include visual scouting of turf areas for biotic and abiotic stresses, identification of diseases using applicable techniques, and application of fertilizers, pesticides and other turfgrass chemicals. Position may involve ordering supplies and maintaining equipment. Detailed record keeping of all field activities will be necessary.

This position may be required to work more than 8 hours per day in all weather conditions. Some weekend work may be necessary depending on experiments. Job duties may deviate from those outlined as determined by supervisors.

### **About the Department**

The Department of Horticultural Science is a nationally recognized department offering highly ranked programs of study at the undergraduate, Master of Science, Master of Professional Studies, and PhD levels. The Department have many distinguished faculty who have won numerous University and national awards for quality teaching, outreach, and published research. The faculty work in a variety of fields including plant breeding, molecular genetics, plant hardiness, postharvest physiology, agroecology, and organic horticulture.

## **How To Apply**

Applications must be submitted online. To be considered for this position, please click the Apply button and follow the instructions. You will be given the opportunity to complete an online application for the position and attach a cover letter and resume.

Additional documents may be attached after application by accessing your "My Activities" page and uploading documents there.

## **Diversity**

The University recognizes and values the importance of diversity and inclusion in enriching the employment experience of its employees and in supporting the academic mission. The University is committed to attracting and retaining employees with varying identities and backgrounds.

The University of Minnesota provides equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. To learn more about diversity at the U: <http://diversity.umn.edu>.

To request an accommodation during the application process, please e-mail [employ@umn.edu](mailto:employ@umn.edu) or call (612) 624-UOHR (8647).

## **Background Check Information**

Any offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of a background check. Our presumption is that prospective employees are eligible to work here. Criminal convictions do not automatically disqualify finalists from employment.

*For more information about this position, please contact: Sam Bauer ([sjbauer@umn.edu](mailto:sjbauer@umn.edu), 763-767-3518)*