

Opportunity Title: USDA-ARS Germplasm and Breeding Insight Postdoctoral Fellowship

Opportunity Reference Code: USDA-ARS-NE-2023-0186

Organization U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Reference Code USDA-ARS-NE-2023-0186

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A complete application consists of:

- An application
- Transcript(s) – For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal institution systems may be submitted. All transcripts must be in English or include an official English translation. Click [here](#) for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

Application Deadline 7/7/2023 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description *Applications may be reviewed on a rolling-basis.

ARS Office/Lab and Location: A research opportunity is currently available with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) US National Arboretum's Floral and Nursery Plants Research Unit (FNPRU). The FNPRU research laboratories are located in Beltsville, Maryland, while much of the plant collections are located at the National Arboretum in Washington, DC.

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific in-house research agency with a mission to find solutions to agricultural problems that affect Americans every day from field to table. ARS will deliver cutting-edge, scientific tools and innovative solutions for American farmers, producers, industry, and communities to support the nourishment and well-being of all people; sustain our nation's agroecosystems and natural resources; and ensure the economic competitiveness and excellence of our agriculture. The vision of the agency is to provide global leadership in agricultural discoveries through scientific excellence.

Research Project: The Woody Landscape Plant Germplasm Repository (WLPGR) is the USDA-ARS designated gene bank for over 200 genera of temperate ornamental trees and shrubs. The WLPGR is responsible for the collection, characterization, maintenance, regeneration, and distribution of germplasm and associated information to facilitate plant conservation and provide information and genetic resources to breeders, growers, and other stakeholders. The selected ORISE participant will collaborate closely with ARS's Breeding Insight Platform (<https://breedinginsight.org/>) to integrate select woody ornamental species into this effort. The participant will also contribute to projects in genetic and phenotypic analysis of select woody plant genera to address population genetic, phylogenetic, and evolutionary



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biology questions.

Learning Objectives: As a result of this training, the participant will gain experience using genomic, phenomic, and software tools while building networks with the skilled and engaged Breeding Insights team. The participant will also strengthen their abilities at analyzing genetic and phenotypic traits of plant germplasm; data analysis and scientific writing; and scientific collaborations with internal and external stakeholders. The participant will learn skills required to manage plant germplasm collections including germplasm culture and cryopreservation; preparation of preserved herbarium vouchers; database management; and spatial and taxonomic gap analysis.

Mentor: The mentor for this opportunity is Todd Rounsaville (todd.rounsaville@usda.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor.

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: 2023. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

Appointment Length: The appointment will initially be for two years, but may be extended upon recommendation of ARS and is contingent on the availability of funds.

Level of Participation: The appointment is full-time.

Participant Stipend: The participant(s) will receive an annual stipend commensurate with educational level and experience.

Citizenship Requirements: This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR).

ORISE Information: This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and ARS. Participants do not become employees of USDA, ARS, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE.

Questions: Please visit our [Program Website](#). After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process please email ORISE.ARS.Northeast@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should have received a doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

Preferred Skills:

- Experience conducting and publishing scientific research in one or more of the following fields: genetics, plant breeding, bioinformatics, population biology.

- Eligibility Requirements**
- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
 - **Degree:** Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 month(s).
 - **Discipline(s):**

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- **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** ([3](#) 👁)
- **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([4](#) 👁)
- **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([17](#) 👁)
- **Mathematics and Statistics** ([3](#) 👁)
- **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).

Affirmation I have lived in the United States for at least 36 out of the past 60 months.
(36 months do not have to be consecutive.)