

Opportunity Title: USDA-ARS Native Rivercane Fellowship

Opportunity Reference Code: USDA-ARS-SEA-2024-0391

Organization U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Reference Code USDA-ARS-SEA-2024-0391

How to Apply *To submit your application, scroll to the bottom of this opportunity and click **APPLY**.*

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.
Click [here](#) for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- Two educational or professional recommendations
- A copy of an abstract or reprint of an article

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

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Application Deadline 3/7/2025 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description ***Applications are 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), located in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

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: This project focuses on the restoration and enhancement of native rivercane (*Arundinaria gigantea*) as a valuable ecological tool for improving water quality, soil health, and wildlife habitat. Rivercane is an essential species for preventing agricultural runoff, serving as a riparian buffer and bioremediation agent. By developing ecologically and genetically appropriate stock for restoration, the project demonstrates rivercane's utility for farms rotating fields into conservation, particularly through the Conservation Stewardship Program. The project highlights rivercane's potential for large-scale landscape applications, improving



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ecosystem services in agricultural settings and supporting state conservation efforts.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop expertise in ecosystem service modeling at landscape scales, focusing on the role of native plants like rivercane in agricultural conservation.
- Gain hands-on experience in evaluating the ecological benefits of rivercane for preventing agricultural runoff and improving water quality.
- Learn advanced techniques in soil health monitoring, water filtration assessment, and habitat evaluation.
- Enhance understanding of rivercane's role as a multifunctional species in riparian buffer zones and its application in large-scale conservation efforts.
- Engage with conservation professionals to explore how native plants can be integrated into agricultural systems to promote sustainability and ecosystem health.

Mentor(s): The mentor for this opportunity is Chris Delhom (chris.delhom@usda.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research, please contact the mentor(s).

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: January 6, 2025. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

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

Level of Participation: The appointment is full time.

Participant Stipend: The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience.

Citizenship Requirements: This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and foreign nationals. Non-U.S. citizen applicants should refer to the [Guidelines for Non-U.S. Citizens Details page](#) of the program website for information about the valid immigration statuses that are acceptable for program participation. Foreign national candidates may have a mandatory in-person requirement depending on visa status.

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







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additional questions about the application process, please email ORISE.ARS.Southeast@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 the past five years.

Point of Contact [Janeen Pointer](#)

- Eligibility**
- Requirements**
- **Degree:** Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 month(s).
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Communications and Graphics Design** ([1](#) )
 - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** ([6](#) )
 - **Earth and Geosciences** ([21](#) )
 - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([14](#) )
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([51](#) )
 - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** ([30](#) )
 - **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).

Affirmation I affirm that:

I am a US Citizen, OR;
I am a non-US citizen currently living in the United States