

Potato Variety Development Program Faculty
85% research, 10% outreach, 5% service
University of Idaho

The University of Idaho invites applications for a faculty position in Plant Sciences to conduct potato variety development research at the Assistant or Associate rank with the possibility of tenure. This position is located at the Aberdeen Research and Extension Center. This is a 9-month tenure-track position with responsibilities allocated as 85% research, 10% outreach, and 5% service.

The successful applicant will have an appointment in the Department of Plant Sciences and will work in close collaboration with the USDA-ARS Potato Breeding and Genetics Program at the Aberdeen R&E Center as part of a successful potato variety development team. Excellent opportunities exist for collaboration with faculty in horticulture, plant breeding, plant physiology, plant pathology and plant molecular biology.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Research: The successful applicant will develop an innovative, internationally recognized, externally funded, industry-responsive research program focused on developing and commercializing new potato varieties that will directly benefit all segments of the potato industry in Idaho and the Pacific Northwest.

Responsibilities include collaborating with university and USDA-ARS scientists, and industry personnel in multi-disciplinary research teams designed to develop improved potato varieties that will be successfully adopted by the processing and fresh-pack industries. The program also includes research activities designed to develop management guidelines that will facilitate industry adoption of new varieties. Specific research areas include assisting in early generation selections and conducting field trials to determine the agronomic performance of advanced clones, as well as nutritional, phytochemical, and processing and culinary quality characteristics. Research will directly contribute to crop improvement and use of valuable traits by the breeding program. The successful applicant will be required to secure extramural grant funding and participate in graduate student research.

QUALIFICATIONS

Minimum Qualifications: Required qualifications include a Ph.D. in agronomy, horticulture, crop science, plant physiology, plant science, or closely related field and training and experience in potato crop management.

Additionally, qualifications to meet tenure at the rank of associate professor in an academic unit with the College are also required if hired at that rank.

The successful applicant will demonstrate the ability to initiate, complete, publish and present research, collaborate effectively with colleagues and industry personnel, and must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills. Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team.

Preferred Qualifications: Demonstrated experience with potato physiology, pest management or variety development in team-based research programs.

Demonstrated experience working on an agronomically important crop, experience in potato production systems, successful grantsmanship, experience working in public-private collaborations.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

To be considered, interested persons must complete the online application (which can be accessed at <https://uidaho.peopleadmin.com/postings/20482>). Additional application materials include the following: CV, names and contact information for at least three professional references, a letter of application addressing your qualifications (for both the minimum and preferred qualifications listed) and interests, and unofficial transcripts.

Closing date for applications is April 1, 2018.

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