POSITION TITLE: Research Associate
The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University invites applications for a full-time research association position in digitizing forest plantation trials. The research associate will be supervised by Dr. Songlin Fei at Purdue University and will have a close collaboration with Dr. Carolyn Pike at USDA Forest Service and Dr. Matthew Ginzel at the Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center, Purdue University.

POSITION SUMMARY
The main purpose of this position is to create a directory and subsequent digitization of living genetic trials across the eastern US. The main responsibilities of the incumbent will be to reach out to each state office, land grant university, and NRS office in the 20 state Region 9 to request a list of all surviving genetics plantings including seed orchards, provenance trials or progeny tests that have pedigreed information (at least the mother tree or genotype of each tree must be known). Specific tasks include but are not limited to (a) update status of trials in NRS region (b) append this list with studies established since 1981; (c) create a digital tag between plantings, former/current managers, and location of paper files; (d) use satellite data to verity and geotag the presence/absence of plantations; and (e) digitization of available historical measurement data of plantations included in the directory.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS
Develop and distribute email survey and follow up with phone calls if necessary (30%); verify plantation sites with satellite data (30%); and develop a searchable guide in database and GIS map that lists all the plantings (40%).

SUPERVISION
Functional Supervision: Advise on former geneticists to call, provide contact information, and answer questions.

REQUIREMENTS / QUALIFICATIONS
Minimum Education Required: **MA/MS degree Minimum Experience Required**: **1 yr**
Education: MA/ MS degree in Forestry, Horticulture, Agriculture, Environmental Science or related field
Experience: prior experience with database (MS Access, SQL, etc.) and GIS is preferred
Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, Certifications: Excellent interpersonal skills and professionalism in dealing with students, faculty, staff, and research cooperators. Good organizational and time management skills with emphasis on accuracy and attention to detail. Capable of taking initiative, assuming responsibility, and handling confidential information with discretion. Ability to work both independently. Limited travels are expected.

PHYSICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL & HAZARDOUS SPECIFICATIONS
LIMITED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY Lift and carry up to 10 lbs. frequently, and up to 20 lbs. Work indoors (% of time: **90**) Work outdoors (% of time: **10**). Other conditions (list) – dust/mold exposure

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: May 2021 (earlier dates are possible)

REVIEW DATE: Review of application materials will begin on Feb. 15, 2021, and continue until the position is filled

DURATION OF APPOINTMENT: Initial appointment is 12 months and will be renewed pending satisfactory performance and availability of funding

SALARY: Commensurate with experience ($40-50K), along with employee benefits

To apply, please send statement of interest, resume, and the names and contact information of three references to:

Janis Gosewehr, Administrative Assistant
PFEN 226, 715 W. State Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2061
765-496-7251
janisgos@purdue.edu

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