

**PLANT SCIENTIST/SCIENTIST-IN-CHARGE**  
**NON-TENURE TRACK POSITION**  
**PENN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**SOUTHEAST AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER**

**Position Description:** Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences seeks a plant scientist to conduct research (65%) and cooperative extension (35%) programs and to serve as scientist-in-charge of Penn State's Southeast Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Landisville, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. This station supports research and extension efforts focused on agronomic and horticultural interests of the region. The SE Center is ideally positioned to permit Penn State to continue to lead the agricultural industry in responding to emerging issues in agriculture. The successful candidate will be a strong advocate for the station with clientele, including agricultural producers, agribusinesses, public and private organizations, and local officials. Ability to seek and obtain external funding for research and extension programs is necessary. This is a non-tenure track position to be filled at the Research Assistant, Senior Research Assistant, Research Associate, or Senior Research Associate level, as appropriate to education and experience. This position reports to the Director, Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station. Affiliation with appropriate PSU academic department is expected. A competitive salary and benefits package will be offered.

**Research Responsibilities:** Collaborate with and support researchers from the Departments of Crop & Soil Sciences, Entomology, Horticulture, and Plant Pathology. Also cooperate with research and demonstration activities initiated by Capital and Southeastern Region extension personnel. This collaboration and support can include assigning land areas, supervising land preparation, fertilization, planting, pest management, irrigation, and data collection. Independent research is encouraged. Independent research on appropriate subjects in support of the mission of the station is encouraged.

**Cooperative Extension Responsibilities:** Initiate extension programs, collaborate with/support field-based educators and extension specialists to organize and conduct field days, tours, and clinics at the SE Center, participate in other educational activities, prepare extension materials, support regional agricultural efforts, and participate in other statewide extension activities.

**Scientist-in-Charge Responsibilities:** Supervise technical/hourly employees, supervise/maintain equipment, facility and grounds, work with the Penn State Office of Physical Plant on facility maintenance, maintain records, develop and manage budget, and market surplus crops.

**Qualifications:** *Required:* MS or PhD in agronomy, horticulture, or closely related discipline; research experience in applied plant science; demonstrated oral and written communication skills. *Desirable:* Coursework, training, or experience in: statistics, plot design, computer applications, integrated pest management, and managing budgets and personnel; experience with farm equipment; public pesticide applicator's license; experience in seeking external funding.

**Location and Facilities:** This position is located at the Southeast Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The SE Center is approximately 120 miles from the University Park campus and serves the climatic region of south central and southeastern Pennsylvania. This portion of Pennsylvania is characterized by a diverse agricultural and urban landscape. Agriculture in the region includes large and small animal and crop enterprises, vegetable, fruit, and ornamental production, an active green industry, and other diverse

agricultural operations. The SE Center is a plant research and extension center comprised of 160 acres, with 40 acres of irrigated cropland. Plant research and extension at the Center involves the Departments of Crop and Soil Sciences, Entomology, Horticulture, and Plant Pathology. In addition, county and regional field-based staff conduct extension and research activities at the Center. Crops range from agronomic (e.g., corn, forage, small grains, soybeans) to horticultural (vegetable and ornamental). Center activities include cultivar evaluations, pest (weed, disease, and insect) management, soil fertility, soil management, economic analysis, and general crop management studies.

**Availability:** Immediately

**Salary:** Competitive salary and benefits package will be offered.

**Closing Date:** May 22, 2009, or until a suitable candidate is identified.

**Application:** Submit resume, full contact information for 3 references, and one-page statement of the opportunities and challenges of managing this PSU research and extension facility to:

Dr. Bruce A. McPheron  
Director, Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station  
Penn State University  
217 Agricultural Administration Building  
University Park, PA 16802-2600

Contact Dr. McPheron at the above address or by email at [bam10@psu.edu](mailto:bam10@psu.edu) for more information.

To learn more about the College of Agricultural Sciences visit our website at: <http://www.cas.psu.edu/>

**Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.**