8 January 2016

Upcoming:

Monday, January 11, 9:30 a.m. – The first technicians meeting for 2016 in Room 375.

Tuesday, January 12, 1:30 p.m. – Soil Science M.Sc. Thesis Defense, Room 346 Ellis Building. Oluwatoyin Obikoya. “Changes in Soil Test Phosphorus Forms with Continuous Phosphorus Fertilizer Addition to Contrasting Prairie Soils”.

Wednesday, January 13, 4:30 p.m. – Deadline for winter term fee payment. Late payment fees will apply to students with an outstanding balance after this date.

Friday, January 22, 12:30 p.m. – Soil Science M.Sc. Thesis Defense, Room 346 Ellis Building. Brian Miller. “Soil Moisture, Vegetation and Surface Roughness Impacts on High Resolution L-Band Microwave Emissivity from Cropped Land during SMAPVEX12”.

Wednesday, January 27, 12:30 p.m. Room 346 Ellis Building – Soil Science seminar series. Dr. David Lobb, Department of Soil Science. Title: TBA

Department Staff Away:

Terri Ramm Jan 5 - 13 (vacation)
Lynda Closson Jan 15 afternoon
News:

Congratulations to Baljeet Singh

Baljeet received an early Christmas present and successfully defended his Ph.D. on December 22. Well done!

Paper of the week:


Opportunities:

Research Scientist-Field Agronomist, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Swift Current, SK

AAFC is seeking a research scientist with significant expertise and experience who is to provide leadership for agronomy-related research in crops, soils, forage, weeds, and plant diseases primarily in western Canada. The successful candidate is expected to develop a strong, applied research program with an interdisciplinary team of research scientists that will complement existing agronomy research undertaken at the various AAFC Research Centres and the universities in Western Canada. The individual is expected to have a strong ability to find issues and problems in the area of field crops; be able to prepare grant proposals; establish research protocols; and plan, design, and implement various research studies to solve current problems and potential issues that will impact western Canada agriculture. Dryland crops, including cereals, oilseeds, pulses and forages are key to western Canadian economy. Therefore, this agronomy research program should focus primarily on these major crop types, yet recognize the potential of new varieties and crop types that could become part of a future crop rotation. The program to be developed must be responsive to the short- and long-term issues and the needs of various clients, including AAFC senior management, producers and the general public. While the emphasis of the program should be on problems relevant to western Canada, there is an expectation that some of the projects will have regional or national impacts.

A pool of qualified candidates may be established and may be used for similar permanent and temporary employment for the location indicated for this process.

Requirements: Doctoral degree from a recognized university in the field of agronomy with training in the areas of plant science (crop development, pathology, physiology; annual crops, forages, soil science, soil microbiology, pest management, weed control, etc.) or Masters degree with equivalent experience. Experience in the design and implementation of scientific research specifically as it relates to field agronomic practices in Western Canada. Experience working with a variety of crops and cropping systems. Experience working on soil – plant – atmosphere interactions. Experience to communicate to scientific, industry and producer audiences. Experience in publication of scientific innovation/productivity/recognition in the form of authorship/editorship of research results in recognized scientific journals, and published reports, books, papers, or other communications resulting from scientific research.

Application deadline: January 15, 2016.

**Sales Agronomist, Munro Farm Supplies Ltd., Portage la Prairie, MB**

Munro Farm Supplies Ltd is currently looking for a sales agronomist at their Portage la Prairie location.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**
- To provide nutrient and crop protection advice to growers while building relationships based on honesty and trust
- Help to promote seed sales and custom application to the market area
- Work with our team of custom applicators and truck drivers to provide efficient and accurate application of all products
- Work as part of a team to enhance company philosophy and a safe work environment

**Job Knowledge and Requirements:**
- At least 3 years of Agronomic experience with a Degree or Diploma in Agriculture.
- The position requires registration with the Agrologists Institute
- Class 5 license
- Clear communication skills, ability to influence, sell and market services that maximize ROI for the farm customer as well as Shur-Gro and Munro.
- Knowledge of the crop input business and the agronomic practices used by the area growers.
- Knowledge of GPS and GIS systems, including yield and variable rate applications.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Be flexible in work hours throughout the busy season.

Munro Farm Supplies offers a unique and exciting work environment with opportunities to advance within the company. We have an excellent compensation package and benefits program. Your resume must clearly demonstrate how you meet the requirements above.

Make resumes attention: Frank Perrin – Manager (frank.perrin@munrofarmsupplies.com), Box 128 Portage la Prairie, Mb R1N 3B2, Phone : 204-857-8741, Fax : 204-239-584.

**Events:**

**2016 Soils and Crops Workshop, March 15-16, Saskatoon, SK**

The deadline for title submission is January 18 ([http://www.usask.ca/soilsncrops/](http://www.usask.ca/soilsncrops/)). There are 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards ($500, $300, $200) for student oral presentations.

There is also a Student Travel Award for this workshop. The Travel Award will cover trip expenses (e.g., conference, regular airfare, accommodations, meals, along with transportation to/from the airport and conference, etc. up to $1000). All that is required is for them to send a CV and an abstract (< 350 words) outlining the research the student would like to orally present. Send these to Ryan Hangs (hangs.ryan@usask.ca). The winner will be announced after the next committee meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>.