

THE SOILED PROFILE



NEWSLETTER DEPARTMENT OF SOIL SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA “bringing you the latest dirt”



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

For general inquiries or if you have material to include in the newsletter:

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Past issues of the Soiled Profile are on our
webpage: [umanitoba.ca/afs/soil science/](http://umanitoba.ca/afs/soil%20science/)

3 March 2017

Upcoming:

Wednesday, Mar 15, 12:30 p.m., Room 346 Ellis Building – Department of Soil Science, Seminar Series, Dr. Timi Ojo, Agricultural Meteorology Specialist, Manitoba Agriculture. “Understanding Scale Issues in Soil Moisture Monitoring”

Monday, Mar 20, 1:00 p.m., Room 346 Ellis Building – Department of Soil Science, M.Sc. thesis defense, Kamala Sapkota. “Pesticide Residue in Groundwater and Soil of a Prairie Province in Canada”

Wednesday, Mar 22, 12:30 p.m., Room 346 Ellis Building – Department of Soil Science, Seminar Series, Professor Durodoluwa Oyedele, Soil Science Professor, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. “Design and assessment of a capillary irrigation system for fertilizer micro-dosing in vegetable production”

Department Staff Away:

Paul Bullock Apr 10-24 (vacation)

News:

SSGSA T-shirts

The Soil Science graduate students are planning to order T-shirts (golf and/or round necks) for purchase by staff and students. The T-shirts will bear the current theme and logo for the Soil science department. They are expected to cost from \$18-\$22 depending on the number of T-shirts that ordered.

Justice.Zhanda@umanitoba.ca is the contact person. You can contact him or he will come and find you.

Paper of the week:

Chathurika, J., **Kumaragamage, D., Zvomuya, F., Akinremi, O.O., Flaten, D.N.** Indraratne, S., Dandeniya, W. 2016. Woodchip biochar with or without synthetic fertilizers affects soil properties and available phosphorus in two alkaline, Chernozemic soils. *Canadian Journal of Soil Science* 96: 472 – 484.

Opportunities:

Technician 5, Field Research Facility and Equipment Manager, Dept of Soil Science, U of Manitoba

Full time: 35 hours per week, Salary (Hourly) \$25.84 - \$34.42, Salary (Annual) \$47,028.80 - \$62,644.40

SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Effective communication skills required.
- Strong organizational skills required.
- Advanced knowledge of mechanics, transport regulation and safety certification required.
- Ability to plan, organize and administer projects required.
- Must be able to work within time and budget constraints.
- Ability and willingness to learn about new equipment and techniques required.
- Ability to keep abreast of developments in the area of expertise required.
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team required.
- Must be capable of training and supervising staff and students.
- Ability to calibrate, operate, trouble-shoot, diagnose and repair field equipment when necessary.
- Class 3 driver's licence required.
- WHMIS training required.

Key Responsibilities

- Calibrate, modify, set up and advise on the acquisition of specialized agricultural research field equipment.
- Undertake and/or facilitate routine repair and maintenance of department field equipment and vehicles.
- Coordinate field equipment and department vehicle registration, booking and use.
- Liaise with other university, provincial and federal departments to share and coordinate inter-departmental field equipment usage for situations where it is more efficient and cost-effective.
- On a project basis, coordinate aspects of work for installations, renovations or new construction including budget allocation, tendering, providing specifications and supervising work.
- Ensure all facility areas are maintained and functional.
- Coordinate the booking and use of all soil and plant sample processing, growth chambers and storage facilities.
- Ensure that field supplies are maintained at an adequate level.
- Liaise with the department safety officer to ensure safe working practices in all aspects of department field work.
- Train summer students, graduate students, technicians and other users in the safe and proper procedures for utilizing the department's field research equipment.
- Oversee the field work-related health and safety certification requirements of staff and students including special driver's licenses, field operation and product application licenses, transportation of dangerous goods and safe, secure storage of hazardous materials in the field work facility.
- Advise on field biosecurity protocols, coordinate their deployment and enforce them among all department field personnel.
- Support the field trips and field projects that are part of the courses offered by the department through student instruction, coordination of logistics and organizing field supplies and equipment as needed by the instructors.
- Advise the department and propose solutions on field research equipment, facility safety and other related issues.

- Assemble log book information for field equipment and vehicle use.
- Plan and establish field study sites and research plots.
- Collect and analyze research data, write research reports.

To apply: [click here](#). Deadline extended to: **March 7, 2017**.

M.Sc. and Ph.D. UMGF Awards, Department of Soil Science, University of Manitoba

New applicants and current M.Sc. and Ph.D. students are encouraged to apply for the 2017 Department of Soil Science University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowship Competition. The award value is \$14,000 per year for a maximum of 2 years for M.Sc. students; and \$18,000 per year for a maximum of 4 years for Ph.D. students. Note that students may only hold the award for the first 24 months of their M.Sc. program or 48 months for a Ph.D. program; students who are currently enrolled must have at least 12 months remaining in their program as of May 1, 2017; new students must become enrolled by January 2018. Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.75 (above B+) at a recognized university based on their last 60 credit hours or equivalent. All students regardless of citizenship are eligible to apply.

Students must submit the following electronically to Martha Blouw, Graduate Academic Advisor, Telephone: 204-474-8223; email: Martha.Blouw@umanitoba.ca, by **March 6, 2017, 4:00pm**:

- Official Transcript of grades from all university programs; University of Manitoba students request student histories from the Registrar's Office (free) to be sent directly to Martha Blouw, 226 Agriculture Building; Current students can provide copies of their original transcripts used for initial admission;
- Letter of Intent describing your educational goals, notional thesis topic area, the name of your thesis advisor, and the date when your program will start;
- A resumé indicating exceptional achievements and demonstration of leadership and experience;
- A 300- to 500-word description of your intended research.
- Letters of reference from two professional referees sent directly from the referee to Martha.Blouw@umanitoba.ca.

International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) Scholar Awards - 2017

Awards of \$2,000 (US) each will be conferred to deserving graduate students in sciences relevant to plant nutrition and management of crop nutrients. The International Plant Nutrition Scholar Awards are open to applicants who are graduate students attending a degree-granting institution located in any country with an IPNI program. Candidates for either the M.S. or Ph.D. degrees, who are enrolled in a program of graduate study as of the application deadline, are eligible. Applicants who have already completed their degrees are ineligible. In the case of Ph.D. candidates, preference will be given to students who have a minimum of one year remaining before completion of their studies. Priority is given to the relevance of the proposed research in support of IPNI's mission. Students in the disciplines of soil and plant sciences including agronomy, horticulture, ecology, soil fertility, soil chemistry, crop physiology, and other areas related to plant nutrition are encouraged to apply.

Application information can be found at <https://www.ipni.net/scholar/learn>. **Deadline for Application – April 27, 2017.**

Assistant Professor, Soil Science, Soil and Water Sciences Department, University of Florida

This is a 12-month tenure-accruing position that will be 70% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) and 30% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service) and available at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Tenure will accrue in the Soil and Water Sciences Department (SWSD). The position offers opportunities to pursue research and extension activities in urban landscape nutrient management and remediation, and research opportunities in the area of emerging contaminants in urban landscape environments. This position is responsible for providing leadership for research program development and involvement in statewide educational programs for landscape management professionals and expected to interact closely with county and multi-county extension horticulture agents working with residential and commercial landscape professionals as well as the newly created regional specialized water agents. Research and extension publications and demonstrations are important outputs of this position. The incumbent will develop a nationally recognized externally funded research program to understand the physical, biogeochemical, and ecological processes and mechanisms controlling the fate and transport of organic and inorganic pollutants within urban landscapes to prevent water quality deterioration, as related to human and natural systems health. The individual will work closely with the Center for Landscape Ecology and Conservation faculty, colleagues in Gainesville other Research and Education Centers to develop a competitive research program. The faculty member will actively participate in graduate education by chairing graduate committees, serving on graduate committees, supervising thesis and dissertation research, and publishing the results with their graduate students.

For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit additional materials by **May 1, 2017**. The position will open until a viable applicant pool is determined. Individuals wishing to apply should go online to <http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/501493>. Nominations are welcome. Please refer to Requisition # 501493. For more information contact: Dr. Craig Stanley and Dr. Nathan Boyd, Co-Chairs, Search and Screen Committee, University of Florida, Gulf Coast REC, 14625 CR 672Wimauma, FL 33598, Telephone: 813-634-0000, Facsimile: 813-634-0001, Email: cdstan@ufl.edu, nsboyd@ufl.edu.

Events:

Organic Agronomy Training 2017, Friday, March 10, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Carman, Manitoba

In partnership with the Prairie Organic Grain Initiative, the University of Manitoba will be offering the second in-person training session for the Organic Agronomy Training Program. The program is for agronomists who are interested in providing agronomic advice to organic and ecological farmers. Participants will be equipped with data-gathering and decision support tools, and be trained in the art and science of organic grain production. The tools provided will enable agronomists to take a systematic and comprehensive approach when working with farmer clients. The program involves in-person meetings as well as ongoing support after the meetings. This support involves direct access to instructors and to other participants through social media, email updates, and phone calls. New participants are welcome to the March 2017 session.

CEU credits pending. Registration cost: If you paid registration in 2016, your winter session is covered. NEW participants: \$ 85 (includes lunch and access to online and social media support). To register: <https://organicarman.eventbrite.ca>.

Please note: The cost will be free to graduate students and lunch is provided. But there is only space for 10 students. Students can email Katherine.stanley@umanitoba.ca to register.

Special Seminar, Wed, March 8, 12:30-1:20 p.m., 172 Agriculture Building, U of Manitoba

The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Manitoba Canola Growers present:

“The Science of Science Communication: Why Audience, Message, and Stories Matter”

Dr. Jennifer Gardy, Senior Scientist, BC Centre for Disease Control, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia, and Canada Research Chair in Public Health Genomics.

Dr. Jennifer Gardy is both a scientist and a science communicator. In her scientific life, she’s a Senior Scientist in Genomics at the BC Centre for Disease Control and an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia, where she holds a Canada Research Chair in Public Health Genomics. Jennifer’s lab uses genome sequencing to understand how infectious diseases spread in populations. When she’s not studying microbes, Jennifer works in science media. She regularly hosts episodes of CBC Television’s long-running science documentary series The Nature of Things, appears as a guest host and contributor on Discovery Chanel’s nightly science newsmagazine Daily Planet, and is a frequent guest on CTV’s daily lifestyle programs CTV Morning Live and The Social. She wrote a children’s book about microbes for OwlKids Books in 2014, and regularly speaks to science graduate students about how to communicate their research effectively.

Refreshments at 12 noon . This event is FREE but we ask that you RSVP to agfoodsci@umanitoba.ca.

Manitoba Institute of Agrologists, 2017 Professional Development and Annual General Meeting, April 13, Portage la Prairie, MB

MCWESTT 2017, May 5, Winnipeg

MCWESTT 2017 is a local, one-day conference dedicated to connecting women in engineering, science, trades, and technology, and empowering them to Create, Foster, and Lead. Master of Ceremonies for the day will be Winnipeg based comedian Dana Smith, and keynote speakers include Susan Auch, Shari Graydon and Sarah Neville. Register before Friday, March 10th to receive the limited-time early bird pricing (<https://apps.apegm.mb.ca/MCWESTT2017Registration.aspx>). For the first time ever, MCWESTT 2017 is offering a full day pre-conference workshop on Thursday, May 4. The WinSETT Effective Communication workshop will be facilitated by Edna Dach with guest speakers Trish Jordan and Dawn Nedohin-Macek. Thanks to the generous partnership of the NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering - Prairies, this workshop is available at a significantly discounted rate of only \$75, exclusively for our conference participants. Be sure to register early as the workshop is limited to only 30 participants. <http://hollettandsons.ca/winsett-leadership-program/>.