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Graduate M.S. Position Available: Impact of Environmental Stressors on Forage Crop Biomass, Nutritional Value, and Livestock Performance.

Application Deadline: Applications accepted until the position is filled.

Start Date: September 1, 2023 or January 16, 2024

Salary: \$18,000 annually + tuition and fees waiver

Organization: Texas Tech University – Lubbock, TX

Position Overview:

One M.S. position is available to participate in a funded effort to evaluate how environmental stressors affect forage crops, and ultimately livestock nutrition, in the Southern High Plains of Texas. The project(s) will focus on investigating how abiotic factors affect biomass production and nutritive value of annual and perennial forage crops, as well as animal behavior and performance. This program aims to better understand how varying environmental conditions can influence whole-system efficiency, spanning from plant establishment and productivity to livestock performance. The student will be responsible for managing greenhouse and small-plot field research, as well as performing laboratory nutritional analyses and grazing research. The student will be officed on-campus, and field work will take place on Texas Tech University research farms. The M.S. student will be housed in the Department of Natural Resources Management within the Davis College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. The position is available beginning September 2023. The successful candidate will receive a tuition waiver and a competitive 12-month stipend.

Required Qualifications:

(1) A BS degree in Agronomy, Animal Science, Natural Resource Management, Rangeland Science, or closely related field; (2) research experience, preferably with livestock, cropland, or rangeland studies; and (3) good written and oral communication skills. Knowledge of plant physiology, livestock production and grazing, and creative and innovative problem-solving abilities are preferred.

To Apply:

Please send a **single PDF** to Aaron Norris (aaron.norris@ttu.edu) with (1) CV; (2) a letter describing how you meet the required qualifications, your research interests, and your career goals; (3) unofficial transcripts; and (4) contact information for three professional references. A formal application to TTU only needs to be made after the selection of the successful candidate. Applications will be accepted until January 2024.

