

Position – MS Assistantship in Soil Science, Colorado State University and USDA-ARS

We seek a highly motivated **M.Sc. student** to study the effects of alternative soil water management on soil structure, organic matter dynamics, and nutrient cycling in cropping systems of Eastern Colorado. This work addresses critical issues of agricultural sustainability by exploring options to improve resource use efficiency, soil health as well as climate change adaptation and mitigation.

The student would be co-housed in the **Dept. of Soil and Crop Sciences and ARS Water Management Unit**, and have the opportunity to interact with a range of scientists and projects both at Colorado State and with the ARS in Fort Collins, CO.

Preferred candidates will have a strong background in soil science, agronomy, agro ecology, or related field, as well as possess solid analytical and writing skills. Ideally, applicants will be ready to start by August 1, 2015, and enroll for fall semester, starting on August 24, 2015.

Funding is available to cover 2 yrs tuition, stipend and benefits; however, students will also be expected to apply for scholarships and other relevant funding opportunities. Interested parties should send CV, cover letter describing research interests and qualifications, list of references and copies of transcripts (unofficial suffice) or direct questions to **Dr. Steven Fonte** (<<mailto:stevenfonte@gmail.com>>stevenfonte@gmail.com) and **Dr. Louise Comas** (<louise.comas@ars.usda.gov>louise.comas@ars.usda.gov).

The deadline to apply is **April 30, 2015**.