Position Announcement

**Position:** Research Scientist, Sustainable Agricultural Systems, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

**Location:** The person in this position will be located at the James C. Hageman Sustainable Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SAREC) near Lingle, Wyoming in the southeastern part of the state. This person’s academic home will be in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY. Agriculture in Southeastern Wyoming is characterized by a diverse mixture of livestock systems coupled with both irrigated and non-irrigated cropping systems. Southeastern Wyoming is largely rural but offers easy access to the Rocky Mountains and Front Range metropolitan areas. This area offers a wide range of outdoor recreation opportunities including, camping, fishing, big game, upland game, and waterfowl hunting.

**SAREC:** The mission of the SAREC station is to serve the citizens of Wyoming, the region and nation by facilitating innovative discovery, dissemination, and engagement of integrated agricultural systems that are ecologically sound, economically viable, and socially acceptable. This is to be accomplished by engagement of the agricultural community and conducting scientific inquiry on agricultural systems that promote sustainable land and resource use, then disseminating that information to the citizens of the region, state and nation.

The center is designed to accommodate research on all the agricultural enterprise activities of the region. Currently, eleven full-time employees work at the center. This includes a Director of Operations, two members of the UW Department of Plant Sciences (1 Faculty & 1 Research Scientist), one faculty member of the UW Animal Sciences Department, and support staff. It is located just over two hours travel time from the main UW campus in Laramie. The facility attracts numerous scientists to the center involved in a variety of research activities. This offers an excellent opportunity for collaborative applied agricultural economics research.

**Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics:** The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics has 14 faculty and 3 academic professionals. It plays a key role in addressing economic/management issues facing decision makers in the state and region. The Department offers both BS and MS degree programs. Multi-disciplinary collaborations in research and teaching are an important part of fulfilling the missions of both the SAREC station and the Department. The Department’s internationally and nationally recognized research and extension programs focus on using economic principles and analyses to assist in decision making at the family, firm, and community levels.

**Description:** This is a twelve-month academic professional position with 45% research and research support, 50% extension/outreach and 5% service. Desired areas of research and extension include: sustainable agricultural systems analysis and enterprise decision-making. The extension portion of this position will be to develop enterprise analyses including the development of enterprise budgets related to sustainable cropping and livestock systems relevant to producers in the region and the State.
Position responsibilities include developing research and extension programs related to novel and sustainable agricultural systems. Basic agricultural systems include both irrigated and dryland cropping systems, as well as livestock related research. However, research may also address relevant topics including natural resource management and irrigation efficiencies. The ability to participate in multidisciplinary research efforts with researchers in applied sciences is essential. This will include working with existing projects in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at SAREC, other R&E Centers around the State, and faculty on the Laramie campus.

This position will work in conjunction with personnel both at the SAREC station and the main University of Wyoming campus in Laramie, but he/she will be under the supervision of faculty housed in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. Desired areas of research and extension include: 1. Enterprise decision-making; and, 2. Analysis of sustainable agricultural systems. The extension portion of this position will be to develop enterprise analyses including the development of enterprise budgets related to sustainable cropping and livestock management relevant to producers in the region and the State.

**Specific Responsibilities:** Assist in the organization and analysis of station specific research data. Develop research-based educational materials for commercial operations in southeast Wyoming. Provide technical expertise to the Extension educational programs in the area. Specific responsibilities include: 1) Assist in data organization and analysis for research being conducted on-site and with cooperating producers; 2) Assist researchers in preparation of technical manuscripts on such data; 3) Collect, process, and verify information from commercial farms and ranches suitable for comparable analysis and utilization by UW Research and Extension for research, teaching, and Extension programs; 4) Develop and provide educational programs with commercial farms and ranches to further understanding and application of economic principles utilizing results from station research; and, 5) Support county, area, and state research and Extension by providing technical expertise in the economic analysis of comparable commercial farm and ranch financial and production information.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications. Benefits packages will be based on University of Wyoming standards for twelve month employees.

**Qualifications:** Candidates must hold an M.S. in Agricultural Economics, Agricultural and Applied Economics, or Economics with specialization in farm and ranch management. The applicants must have proficiency in standard word processing and spreadsheet software. Experience using appropriate methods to conduct economic analyses related to sustainable agricultural systems and production systems analysis including such techniques as enterprise budget development and mathematical programming is preferred.

**Application:** Complete applications will include resume, transcripts, names and contact information for 3 references, and a cover letter addressing the candidate’s qualifications and vision for the intended position. The position will be held open until filled, but initial evaluation of applications will begin March 21, 2012. Please forward applications to:

Dr. Christopher T. Bastian, Chair of Research Scientist Search Committee
The University of Wyoming is committed to diversity and endorses principles of affirmative action. We acknowledge that diversity enriches and sustains our scholarship and promotes equal access to our educational mission. We seek and welcome applications from individuals of all backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives.