DIVISION OF
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture
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Graduate Research Assistantships (M.S. and Ph.D.)

Oklahoma State University | Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

Anticipated Start Date: Summer 2027

Position Description

The Turfgrass Science Lab at Oklahoma State University, led by Dr. Mingying Xiang, is seeking **one motivated M.S. student and one Ph.D. student** to join our research team beginning in Summer 2027.

Our research program focuses on improving turfgrass performance, stress resilience, and sustainable management practices. Successful candidates will have opportunities to conduct innovative research integrating field, greenhouse, and laboratory experiments, with an emphasis on applied turfgrass management and plant stress physiology.

Potential Research Areas

Research projects may involve one or more of the following areas:

- **Integrated weed management** in bluemuda (bermudagrass–Kentucky bluegrass) systems.
- **Turfgrass water conservation**, including drought resistance, water-use efficiency, and deficit irrigation strategies.
- **Cold and freeze tolerance** of warm-season turfgrasses, including winter survival and spring recovery.

Specific research projects will be developed based on program priorities and the selected candidates' interests and experience.

Qualifications

- A B.S. degree (for M.S. applicants) or an M.S. degree (for Ph.D. applicants) in turfgrass science, agronomy, horticulture, plant science, or a related discipline.
- Strong interest in turfgrass management, plant physiology, and sustainable turfgrass systems.
- Excellent communication, organizational, and teamwork skills.
- Willingness to conduct field, greenhouse, and laboratory research.
- Previous research experience, data analysis skills, and scientific writing experience are preferred.

Financial Support and Professional Development

- **Fully funded graduate research assistantships**, including a competitive stipend and tuition waiver.

- Opportunities to present research at regional and national scientific conferences, including ASA–CSSA–SSSA meetings.
- Opportunities to publish in peer-reviewed journals and collaborate with researchers and industry partners.
- Professional development in experimental design, data analysis, scientific communication, and applied research.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should email **Dr. Mingying Xiang** at **my.xiang@okstate.edu** with the following materials:

1. Cover letter outlining research interests, relevant experience, and career goals.
2. Curriculum vitae (CV).
3. Unofficial academic transcripts.
4. TOEFL or IELTS scores and GRE scores, as applicable. **Please contact us only after all required test scores are available.**

Please include **"M.S. Application – Turfgrass Science"** or **"Ph.D. Application – Turfgrass Science"** in the email subject line.

Application review will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled.

Oklahoma State University is an equal opportunity employer.