



United States Department of Agriculture
Research, Education, and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

“Finding Solutions to Agricultural Problems that Affect Americans Every Day, From Field to Table.”

**Research Chemist/Physical Scientist/Plant Pathologist/Plant Physiologist
(Post Doctoral Research Associate), GS-1320/1301/0434/0435-11**

Plant Polymer Research Unit
National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research – Peoria, Illinois

Salary Range of \$58,562 to \$76,131/per year

Announcement Open: February 13, 2015 through March 31, 2016 (or until selection is made)

The USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Plant Polymer Research Unit, of the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research located in Peoria, Illinois is seeking a POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE for a TWO YEAR APPOINTMENT. Recent Ph.D. is required (within last 4 years). Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. U.S. Citizenship or Permanent Residence (and seeking U.S. citizenship) is required. The incumbent will conduct research on developing technologies that will allow a grape plant to heal naturally and protect it from fungal agents that may enter the plant through the pruning wound and lead to plant damage and yield loss. Focus is on the use of renewable materials to produce protective films that will eventually biodegrade. Polymer formulation, rheology, and degradation will be among the skills that the incumbent will use. The incumbent is expected to identify promising areas of research, define research goals, and complete the remainder of the research and reporting process. Knowledge of current methods used in polymer chemistry, organic chemistry, plant sciences, analytical chemistry and instrumental analysis is desirable. A comprehensive Federal benefits package is available. **To apply, visit www.usajobs.gov, keyword **RA-15-015H**, and follow the application instructions.** For a printed copy of the announcement, call 301-504-1335. Questions about the position may be directed to Dr. Gordon Selling, at 309-681-6338 or gordon.selling@ars.usda.gov.

Applications must be received/post marked by March 31, 2016.

The USDA/ARS is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.

/s/ approved 2/12/15

Kristen Brunclik, Human Resources Specialist