

**Extension Specialist- Nursery and Greenhouse  
Department of Horticulture**

**The College of Agriculture's Department of Horticulture at Auburn University** is seeking candidates for the position of Extension Specialist-Nursery and Greenhouse. The incumbent will work from the Ornamental Horticulture Research Center in Mobile, Alabama. In this position the successful candidate will work collaboratively with the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station (AAES) and perform functions of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES), the primary Extension organization for the land-grant mission of Alabama A&M University and Auburn University. ACES is dedicated to delivering research-based educational programs designed to empower individuals to improve their quality of life and economic well-being. This position will enhance the economy and quality of life and health of people and their environment through applied horticulture research and Extension programming. The expected start date is March 1, 2016.

**Responsibilities:** This is a 12-month, non-tenure track faculty position with 50% research and 50% extension responsibilities. The successful candidate's responsibilities will involve statewide Extension program planning, implementation, and evaluation. The primary emphasis will be placed on sphere of influence associated with the Ornamental Horticulture Research Center. The successful candidate will identify industry needs and build professional relationships with nursery and greenhouse crop producers, allied industries, relevant government agencies and professional associations. They will be expected to provide technical training that meets the needs of growers, their employees, and ACES field personnel, via presentations, publication, training curricula development, subject-matter expert consultation, on-farm field demonstrations and experiment station field days, as well as, through other relevant program delivery methods.

In addition, the incumbent will also be responsible for developing, implementing, and sustaining a nationally recognized research program in the area of nursery and greenhouse crops that is extramurally-funded. Research efforts will provide rigorous scientific evaluation of irrigation/water use, pest management strategies, and cultivar improvements. Efforts will also include publication of research results in peer reviewed journals, communication and dissemination of research results to appropriate industry constituencies, and successfully direct graduate students. The successful candidate will be expected to function effectively on multi-disciplinary teams, develop collaborative relationships with faculty in the department and across the college and university. They will be expected to be actively engaged with the Ornamental Horticulture Research Center team as an active participant and supporter of its AAES mission.

**Qualifications:** Minimum qualifications include an earned M.S. degree from an accredited institution in Horticulture or closely related plant sciences discipline with emphasis in greenhouse and/or nursery crop production. The successful candidate must possess excellent interpersonal skills, communication skills, and organizational skills. They must also meet eligibility requirements for work in the United States at the time the appointment is scheduled to begin and continue working legally for the term of employment.

Desired qualifications include a Ph.D. from an accredited institution in Horticulture or an applied agricultural discipline with emphasis in greenhouse and/or nursery crop production. Experience in successful acquisition of extramural funding, transformative Extension education programming, and demonstrated ability to develop a research program along with publications in peer reviewed journals is also desired.

**Application:** Applicants must apply for the position electronically through: <http://aufacultypositions.peopleadmin.com/postings/1254> and submit the following: 1) cover letter addressing the candidate's experience pertinent to the responsibilities of the position, 2) Curriculum vitae, 3) Statement of Extension program philosophy, and (4) copies of all academic transcripts. When prompted during the on-line application process, please provide names, phone numbers and email addresses of three professional references. Only complete application materials will be considered. Active review of applications will begin November 1, 2015 and the search will continue until the position is filled. Questions about the position should be directed to:

Dr. Gary Keever  
Search Committee Chair  
Department of Horticulture  
101 Funchess Hall  
Auburn University  
Email: keevegj@auburn.edu

**The University:** Auburn University is a land-grant institution with a student enrollment of more than 27,000. The University provides instruction in approximately 70 academic departments and maintains graduate research and public service programs of a broad scope. The University is located in the city of Auburn in east-central Alabama near the metropolitan areas of Montgomery and Birmingham, Alabama, and Columbus and Atlanta, Georgia.

**The Department:** The Department of Horticulture consists of 17 full-time faculty and 15 staff conducting programs in research, teaching and outreach/extension activities. More information can be found at [www.ag.auburn.edu/hort/](http://www.ag.auburn.edu/hort/).

**Auburn University is an EEO/Vet/Disability Employer**