University of Nevada, Reno

M.Sc. Graduate Research Assistantship

The Precision Irrigation Management (PRIMA) Laboratory of the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) invites applicants for a M.Sc. graduate research assistantship. The selected applicant will conduct research regarding growth modeling of alfalfa (*Medicago sativa L.*) cultivated in arid and semi-arid areas of the Western U.S. The selected applicant will use for this purpose the CROPGRO-Perennial Forage Model (PFM) included in the Decision Support System for Agrotechnology Transfer (DSSAT) and the Agricultural Production Systems Simulator (APSIM). Additional research topics include the development and implementation of alfalfa hay yield forecasting tools using sensing systems, crop growth models, and artificial intelligence.

Minimum qualifications:
- B.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering, Irrigation Engineering, Biological Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Agronomy, Soil Science, or closely related fields
- GPA of 3.00 or greater
- GRE scores reflecting a verbal plus quantitative score of 297 or greater
- TOEFL score of at least 600 (paper version), 250 (computer version), or 100 (internet-based version) – only required for applicants from non-English speaking countries
- Self-motivated, capable of working independently and as part of a team
- Willingness to work in the field

Preferred qualifications:
- Strong computer programming skills
- Experience with DSSAT and/or APSIM crop growth models

Expected start date: Fall 2023.

Interested applicants can submit their resume to Dr. Alejandro Andrade-Rodriguez – andradea@unr.edu.