



Oregon State University
**Southern Oregon Research
and Extension Center**

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Oregon State University
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Position Summary and Purpose

Applications are invited for a 12-month, full-time (1.0 FTE) postdoctoral scholar position in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University working at the Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center (SOREC). The successful applicant will manage the viticulture portion of a [federally funded multi-state research project investigating the impact of wildfire smoke on grape and wine composition](#). SOREC is in the heart of the beautiful Rogue Valley, a part of the Southern Oregon region. More details [here](#).

The incumbent will independently conduct and manage transdisciplinary research in the fields of plant ecophysiology, viticulture, fruit ripening metabolism, wine chemistry, and atmospheric science in the context of wine grape production and wildfire. The incumbent will work closely with researchers in the Horticulture and Food Science & Technology departments at OSU, as well as collaborate with researchers in analogous departments at Washington State University and UC-Davis. Duties will include designing and implementing applied research trials involving controlled smoke applications, barrier spray applications, field data collection, sample processing and laboratory analyses, conducting demonstrations, and publishing research results in peer-reviewed journals. Supervision and interaction with graduate and undergraduate students working within the project is expected.

Position Duties

60% Research. Research duties will include but are not limited to:

- Develop, build, and maintain novel multi-vine smoking chamber system (in consultation with collaborating engineers) to apply controlled concentrations of simulated wildfire smoke.
- Monitor grapevine microclimate, growth/development, and physiology using various field instruments and sensors (e.g., pressure chamber and IRGAs).
- Coordinate with collaborating scientists and stakeholders to manage regional smoke sensor network.
- Collect grapevine tissue samples for further laboratory assays of size and composition using biochemical and analytical techniques (e.g., spectrophotometry and HPLC).

20% Scholarship. Publish research results as lead or co-author in peer-reviewed journals and other publications as appropriate. Present results to peers and/or industry at local, national, and international meetings.

20% Project management, supervision, and professional development. Plan, assign, and approve daily duties for undergraduate and graduate student research assistants and laboratory technicians. Participate in training sessions to learn new skills, formal and informal, on- or off-site, as needed. Participate in group meetings, discussions, and staff events at the station. [Prepare three-year strategic plan to achieve a professional goal.](#)

Minimum Required Qualifications:

- Ph.D. in plant physiology, environmental chemistry, or a closely related field of plant science within 5 years of hire.
- Demonstrated ability to contribute to scholarly activity through refereed journals and presentations at scientific meetings.
- Demonstrated excellence in lab skills.
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate, cooperate and work within a team structure.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently.
- Must be able to obtain a valid Oregon driver's license.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience in conducting applied plant ecophysiology research in perennial crops.
- Experience with reverse-phase high performance liquid chromatography.
- Experience working with whole-plant gas exchange systems.
- Experience working at an off-campus research station.
- A demonstrable commitment to diversity and inclusiveness.
- Ability to work with diverse faculty, students, industry clientele, and stakeholders.

Working Conditions/Work Schedule:

- Research will be conducted at SOREC and at grower-collaborator field sites that will require travel using a SOREC vehicle.
- Work may require lifting, pushing or pulling up to 50 lbs.
- Tasks may require work outdoors in all weather conditions for an extended period.
- Must be able to walk on uneven terrain.
- Non-standard hours may be required during peak times of the field season.

Application:

Send one, combined PDF containing the following materials to Dr. Alexander Levin (alexander.levin@oregonstate.edu):

- 1) Cover letter outlining your interest, expertise, and technical skills relevant to this position.
- 2) Curriculum vitae.
- 3) Copies of transcripts (unofficial acceptable with application).
- 4) Two copies of publications – including one first author peer-reviewed paper – exemplary of your writing, knowledge, and relevant skills.
- 5) Contact information for at three professional references including name, current position, email address, phone number, and relationship to you.

Anticipated start date and duration of appointment:

April/May 2022. This appointment is 12-months long and may be renewed annually up to three years with satisfactory performance.

Stipend and benefits:

Stipends depend on years of postdoctoral experience. More details can be found [here](#).