Research Field/Lab Technician
Damschen Lab:
Plant Ecology in a Changing Landscape

The Damschen Lab in the Integrative Biology Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is now accepting applications for full-time field/lab assistant positions to begin around June 1st, 2020, or earlier, and continue though the summer. See our website for detailed descriptions of our work: https://damschenlab.zoology.wisc.edu. Specific projects are listed below. All positions are based in Madison with frequent travel around Southern Wisconsin. Previous field experience preferred, though not necessary. Enthusiasm for plant conservation and ecology required!

**Position:** Student field/lab assistant (multiple available)  
**Pay rate:** ~$9-11/hour  
**Start date/duration:** Full-time seasonal position for ~12-16 weeks between May and August

**Job responsibilities:**
- Handle and Identify plants (and sometimes insects) in the field and in the lab
- Collect, record, and process data
- Maintain field equipment
- Be willing to work in challenging conditions (high temperatures, buggy environments, rain, etc.)
- Work independently and collaborate with a team
- Drive to field sites (<50 miles from Madison)
- Some projects may require long hours and possible weekend work

**Requirements:**
- Valid US driver's license and ability to obtain driver authorization from UW Risk Management: [http://www.bussvc.wisc.edu/risk_mgt/drivetable.html](http://www.bussvc.wisc.edu/risk_mgt/drivetable.html).
- Coursework or interest in ecology, biology, botany or related fields.
- Experience with or willingness to learn plant ID and processing techniques.
- Enjoy being outside, comfortable working in hot/humid conditions.

Diversity is a source of strength, creativity, and innovation for UW-Madison. We value the contributions of each person and respect the variety of ways their identity, culture, background, experience, status, abilities, and opinion enrich the University community. Our lab aims to make science and ecology more inclusive of people of all identities, and we strongly encourage people of color, and people of all genders, sexual orientations, and cultural backgrounds to apply.

Applications are due on **March 6th, 2020**. Apply: [https://tinyurl.com/DamschenTech](https://tinyurl.com/DamschenTech).
Research Field/Lab Technician
Damschen Lab:
2020 Job Descriptions

Project Title: Functional Trait Technician
Project Lead: Sam Ahler

Aid in the processing of plant functional traits for species from Wisconsin natural areas and the Savannah River Site in South Carolina. Work includes weekly plant collections in remnant prairies and savannas in southern Wisconsin, making plant measurements in the lab (e.g. seed coat thickness, SLA, plant height, etc.), and helping out with various other projects in the lab. There is also an opportunity to continue this work part-time into the following 2020-2021 academic year.

---

Project Title: Monarch Research Technician
Project Lead: Stephanie McFarlane

Working on restored prairies throughout southern Wisconsin, collecting plant and insect data to determine what site characteristics of restorations influence the abundance of monarchs at their different life stages. The research crew typically visits 2 prairie restorations per day and conducts surveys for milkweeds, floral resources and monarchs. We will also collect data on various floral traits that attract pollinators to a site, such as floral display size and floral reward quantity/quality. There is an opportunity to develop your own research project and continue work in the lab during the 2020-2021 academic year.