SEARCH PLAN PROPOSAL FOR Viticulture/Pomology (October 2012)

Location: Department of Horticulture
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853

Rank: Assistant Professor, 9-month tenure-track position

Position: 50% research, 50% teaching

Position Description: Viticulturist/Pomologist

New York State is a major producer of fruit crops, and Cornell University has a long history of research and teaching in the area of fruit production. The wine and grape industry is expanding rapidly in NYS and is a major contributor to the economy. Most vineyards and orchards are situated near rivers, lakes and oceans, making nutrient and agrochemical leaching into surface and groundwater an important factor to manage and mitigate. Sustainably managing soil, water, and nutrient resources in a changing climatic and economic environment is critical for the continued success of the winegrape and tree fruit industries.

Responsibilities: The candidate is expected to develop and direct an externally-funded, nationally-recognized research program on deciduous fruit production systems, including winegrapes, with emphasis on understanding interactions between the fruiting plant and ecosystems, and applying this knowledge to improve the sustainability of fruit crop production systems. Possible research areas include: soil, water, nutrient and groundcover management; agrochemical leaching/runoff; identification and management of variables contributing to soil health; and nutritional physiology of fruit crop species in relation to food and wine quality.

The candidate is also expected to teach or co-teach courses associated with the Viticulture/Enology and Plant Sciences majors, including an upper-level viticulture course such as Grapevine Biology. Contributions to other fruit systems courses are expected when appropriate, particularly Ecological Orchard Management. Participation in curriculum development, student recruitment, undergraduate and graduate advising, and internship identification and management will be components of the teaching responsibility.

The candidate is expected to participate fully in the academic life of the department and college by serving on committees, attending relevant meetings, and serving as a resource for inquiries about fruit production.

Salary and start-up package are generous and able to be negotiated. Benefits are excellent.
Qualifications: Ph.D. in horticulture or closely-related field with experience in fruit production systems. Previous teaching experience desirable.

Application procedure:
Application: Submit letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of research goals and plans, statement of teaching philosophy, graduate transcripts, and names of three references to: https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/2372. For additional information, email Dr. Justine Vanden Heuvel at jev32@cornell.edu. Review of applications will begin February 1, 2013, and continue until the position is filled.