



## **Extension Assistant Professor of Urban Agriculture**

### **University of Massachusetts Amherst**

#### **About UMass Amherst**

UMass Amherst, the Commonwealth's flagship campus, is a nationally ranked public research university offering a full range of undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees. The University sits on nearly 1,450-acres in the scenic Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts, and offers a rich cultural environment in a bucolic setting close to major urban centers. In addition, the University is part of the Five Colleges (including Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, and Smith College), which adds to the intellectual energy of the region.

#### **Job Description**

The [Stockbridge School of Agriculture](#) at the University of Massachusetts Amherst invites applications for a full-time Extension faculty position at the rank of Assistant Professor. We are looking for a candidate who will develop an integrated program in urban agriculture involving Extension, teaching, and research.

Urban agriculture encompasses a wide range of skills and expertise that includes, but is not limited to, horticulture, indoor production, environmental remediation, soil health, community and urban development, nutrition, and food systems. A new faculty member would link efforts in these areas in Stockbridge, the [Center for Agriculture, Food & the Environment](#), and the University in an urban agriculture and food systems program. They will collaborate with other faculty members in nationally-recognized [sustainability efforts across campus](#), particularly in the [School of Earth and Sustainability](#). They will work closely with Extension Educators serving an audience of Urban Agriculture practitioners through a multi-disciplinary outreach and education program. The incumbent will also collaborate with stakeholders in government and non-government agencies to expand and develop programs in food production for new and underserved urban audiences. A primary role will be to generate and disseminate research-based information that can be used to empower urban entrepreneurs and mission-driven organizations to grow healthy local food.

Stockbridge School has an excellent [undergraduate program Sustainable Food & Farming](#), both on campus and online. Students increasingly want to study urban horticulture and emerging methods for urban food production. The new faculty member will have the opportunity to modify and develop courses in urban horticulture and food systems in Stockbridge for both campus and online programs, and guide students in related internships.

#### **Requirements**

An MS with experience is required, and a PhD preferred, in horticulture, plant science, urban agriculture, or closely related fields. Experience in Extension or public outreach required. The candidate is expected to demonstrate the ability to teach undergraduates and fully engage in public education. The successful candidate will acquire extra-mural funding to support research and Extension programs.

### **Additional Information**

Review of applicants will begin **January 6, 2023** and will continue until the ideal candidate is identified.

Expected start date of this position is July 15, 2023.

Information for prospective faculty: <https://www.umass.edu/prospective-faculty/>

### **Application Instructions**

Applicants should submit a (1) cover letter, (2) curriculum vitae, (3) statement of research interests, (4) statement of teaching philosophy, (5) statement of Extension philosophy, (6) contact information for three references, and a (7) Statement of Contribution to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (see below). The department values candidates who have experience working in settings with students from diverse backgrounds, and who possess a strong commitment to contributing to the success of historically underrepresented groups.

The Diversity Statement should identify past experiences and future goals. These contributions may result from lived experiences, scholarship, and/or mentoring, teaching, and outreach activities. As part of a commitment to their own multicultural community, CNS seeks an individual with a demonstrated commitment to diversity and one who will understand and embrace university initiatives and aspirations (<https://www.cns.umass.edu/diversity-equity-inclusion>).

Please submit applications online at the following link:

<https://careers.umass.edu/amherst/en-us/job/516114/extension-assistant-professor-a-urban-agriculture>

Questions can be directed to the search committee chair, **Dr. Daniel Cooley** ([dcooley@umass.edu](mailto:dcooley@umass.edu)).

*UMass Amherst is committed to a policy of equal opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, age, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability, military status, or genetic information in employment, admission to and participation in academic programs, activities, and services, and the selection of vendors who provide services or products to the University. To fulfill that policy, UMass Amherst is further committed to a program of affirmative action to eliminate or mitigate artificial barriers and to increase opportunities for the recruitment and advancement of qualified minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and covered veterans. It is the policy of the UMass Amherst to comply with the applicable federal and state statutes, rules, and regulations concerning equal opportunity and affirmative action.*