

Postdoctoral Position in Precision Livestock Farming

University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, USA

Position: Postdoctoral Fellow – Precision Livestock Farming

Job description: Conduct research and extension activities in precision livestock farming to advance management strategies in swine production using robotics and artificial intelligence. The position is located in the Agricultural Systems Technology (AST) program of the Division of Plant Science and Technology at University of Missouri (MU), in collaboration with the research team from animal science and agricultural economics.

Duties: The candidate will work with a multidisciplinary team consisting of research and extension faculty, graduate and undergraduate students in developing the AI-enabled animal monitoring and decision-making system. Responsibilities of the position include development, evaluation and deployment of a robotic imaging system, big data analytic pipeline, artificial intelligence enabled decision-support systems for animal production with a focus on swine reproduction. The candidate is expected to lead the research activities of technology development, field evaluation, data collection and analysis and publication. The candidate is also expected to participate teaching and extension activities in related area. The position will have opportunities to participate in international conferences, get training for grant writing and mentor graduate and undergraduate students.

Minimum Qualifications: Ph.D. degree in Agricultural and Biological Engineering, or other related fields by the time of appointment. Other degree programs will be accepted if the candidate shows strong experience in computer vision, robotics and artificial intelligence.

Candidates will be evaluated on: Experience in robotics, computer vision and digital agriculture or research using digital technologies, such as internet of things, sensors, robotics and artificial intelligence. A strong background in developing sensor systems, robotic systems and analyzing agricultural big data with machine learning and deep learning algorithms is desired. The successful candidate will need the ability to maintain a good working relationship with other research fellows working in a large research group and lab and research management experience. Excellent communication skills, potential for collaborative research, ability to work independently and cooperatively, advising students on the research team, and strong writing skills for grant proposals and journal articles are all important aspects of the position.

Benefits: This position is eligible for University benefits. The University offers a comprehensive benefits package, including medical, dental and vision plans, retirement, and educational fee discounts. For additional information on University benefits, please visit the Faculty & Staff Benefits website at <http://www.umssystem.edu/totalrewards/benefits>.

Application Deadline: The position is expected to start in September 2024. Candidate screening will begin in July 2024, but applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Application Procedure: Apply online at <https://hr.missouri.edu/job-openings>, **Job ID 51800**. Be prepared to upload: 1) a cover letter addressing the candidate's experience, scholarly research interests and professional goals, and qualifications pertinent to the responsibilities of the position; 2) a resume; and 3) the contact information for three references.

Contact: Questions regarding the position should be directed to Dr. Jianfeng Zhou at zhoujianf@missouri.edu, 573-882-2495.