



Soil Science & Agronomy Post-Doctoral Research Associate

Salary range: £35,000 - £40,000 per annum depending on experience

REF: RES2401

Are you an experienced researcher with an interest in organic and agroecological systems? Are you committed to innovative, inclusive and trans-disciplinary research approaches based on systems thinking? Are you a pragmatic, creative and forward-thinking scientist ready to lead participatory research and experimentation with real farms and businesses? Then, this might be the opportunity for you.

ORC seeks to appoint a Soil Science and Agronomy Post-Doctoral Research Associate (PDRA) on a 2-year fixed term contract with the possibility of extension. The role will be responsible for the timely management and delivery of results from two newly funded projects at the Organic Research Centre.

The first of these projects is focussed on the development of novel organic waste management strategies to build healthy soils and healthy crops. The PDRA will work with a network of composting practitioners to test the impacts of their composting methods on a range of agronomic, ecological and economic parameters. Evidence will be used to produce advice and guidance on how to best manage organic materials for the best agronomic, environmental and economic outcomes.

The second project is focussed on strategies to reduce the use of N fertilisers on intensively managed grass on dairy farms. Strategies will be co-created with the dairy farmers and trialled on farms.

Both projects require expertise in nutrient cycling in agricultural soils, an understanding of how organic wastes and fertilisers are managed and used on UK farms; experience with soil C and N models is desirable, as is an understanding of the use of carbon footprinting methods on UK farms. Strong data analysis and communication skills are essential. Applicants need to be familiar with UK farming systems and comfortable working in agricultural environments.

We are looking to recruit the right candidate for this pivotal role, which is full-time and home-based. A job description and details of how to apply are available at <https://www.organicresearchcentre.com/about-us/working-with-us/>

The **closing date for applications is 22nd November 2024**, however applications may be closed early if sufficient quality applications are received. Initial interviews will be held online on **27th November 2024**.