

## JOB OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement Number	: 25-06
Position Title	: Assistant Professor
Appointment Type	: Tenure Track
Annual Salary	: \$62,256.00
Location of Position	: University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus Agricultural Extension Service Department of Agro-environmental Sciences ( <a href="https://www.uprm.edu/ciag/ambientales/">https://www.uprm.edu/ciag/ambientales/</a> )
Opening Date	: May 20, 2025
Closing Date	: June 20, 2025 (or until a candidate has been identified)

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### INTRODUCTION

The University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez is currently searching for applicants Assistant Professor with specialty in outreach related to Starchy Crops and Tubers.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in Horticulture, Agronomy, Plant Sciences, or an equivalent degree from an accredited institution recognized by the University of Puerto Rico. Although a completed Ph.D. is required at the time of application, candidates who are expected to complete their Ph.D. within 12 months of being hired may be considered. (If hired, failure to meet this requirement will result in the cancellation of the appointment). Additionally, the candidate must have expertise in the cultivation of farinaceous crops and tubers, educational methodologies and assessment, and other areas related to the farinaceous and tuber industry. We are looking for candidates with demonstrated ability and experience in outreach, writing, and obtaining external funding. The candidate must be committed to serving the mission and objectives of the university. Experience in both formal and non-formal educational work, as well as bilingualism (Spanish and English), will be considered highly valuable skills.

### JOB DESCRIPTION AND DUTIES

The Specialist in Starchy Crops and Tubers will work to address the specific needs of the farinaceous and tuber industry, which include (1) sustainable cultivation practices, emphasizing an integrated pest and disease management approach based on the resources (technological, agrochemical, and economic) available to local farmers; (2) strategies to maintain an inventory of propagation material in the event of adverse atmospheric or environmental conditions affecting crops; (3) maintaining interdisciplinary work teams that respond to pests and diseases of economic importance in farinaceous crops, roots, and tubers, while ensuring phytosanitary measures that protect local production and markets; and (4) conducting research on farinaceous crops and tubers, either with institutional or external funding, in collaboration with colleagues from the University of Puerto Rico or other universities, as well as state or federal government agencies. The selected candidate is expected to establish and develop an advanced multidisciplinary program that will strengthen outreach and applied research in starchy crops and Tubers. The candidate will have an academic workload of 75% in outreach and 25% in research and will be hired through the Agricultural Extension Service.

The position involves collaboration and integration with other faculty members, specialists, agricultural agents, researchers, farmers, professionals from related agencies, community groups, and organizations. The candidate must have problem-solving skills and be capable of responding to farmers' inquiries. They are expected to participate in the dissemination of educational materials to clients using both traditional and electronic media (training, circular letters, curriculum guides, direct advisory services, electronic publications, including official social media, etc.). Additionally, the candidate is expected to advise undergraduate and graduate students, secure external funding for research and laboratory improvements in research areas and be to teach courses as needed by the department's academic programs. Furthermore, the candidate must participate in faculty committees, assessment activities, and continuous improvement initiatives, as well as support outreach activities and provide general services to the department and the Agricultural Extension Service. The selected candidate will adhere to the current regulations regarding the evaluation of faculty members assigned to integrated departments.

## HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants must complete the Employment application form. It is available at the following link: <https://www.uprm.edu/sea/solicitud-de-empleo/>. Applicant must include a letter of intent, a curriculum vitae, official transcripts of studies (graduate and undergraduate), a personal statement describing their research plans, a list of at least three (3) references from professionals in the field, and three (3) reference letters from peers in the area. The documents must be sent to the following postal address and/or e-mail:

**Dr. Maria L. Plaza**  
**Department of Agro-environmental Sciences**  
**University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus**  
**Call Box 9000, Mayagüez, PR 00681-9000**  
**e-mail: [maria.plaza@upr.edu](mailto:maria.plaza@upr.edu)**  
**Telephone: 787-832-4040 x 3741, 2313**

### NOTES:

- NO APPLICATIONS OR DOCUMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE OF THIS EMPLOYMENT NOTICE.

SUBMITTED BY:



Jennice G. Colón Santos  
Human Resources Coordinator

May 20, 2025

Date

Feel the pride and satisfaction of serving the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus, CAS – AES, while enjoying benefits such as: Opportunities to Study, Christmas Bonus, Regular or Vacation Leave, Sick Leave, Maternity or Paternity Leave, Savings and Investment Plan of the University of Puerto Rico, Health Insurance, among others.

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