Vegetable Breeding Position  
Cornell University  
Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics

The Department of Plant Breeding & Genetics is dedicated to the genetic improvement of crop plants for the benefit of society through the development of novel breeding methodologies and the discovery and deployment of economically important genes. Our department has a rich history dating from 1907 just after the establishment of the College of Agriculture in 1904. Our faculty are engaged in diverse activities ranging from the molecular study of crop plant genomes to development of superior crop varieties worldwide. Plant breeding is an integrative science that combines the knowledge, information, and expertise from a range of disciplines to produce unique germplasm and/or varieties and new knowledge. Our world-class research programs involve development of improved gene mapping methods, functional genomics, bioinformatics, quantitative genetics applications, utilization of wild germplasm, gene cloning strategies, genetics of crop quality, disease and insect resistance, and new breeding strategies.

Position: Assistant or Associate Professor of Plant Breeding & Genetics (tenure track)  
Vegetable Breeding and Genetics  
Research (60%) and teaching (40%)  

Starting Date: To be determined  
Location: Department of Plant Breeding & Genetics  
New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-1901

Responsibilities: To lead an innovative research program on the genetics and breeding of vegetable crops. The successful candidate will be expected to develop a strong research and teaching program in vegetable genetics and breeding. Emphasis will focus on methods for identification and utilization of disease and/or insect resistance to improve vegetable germplasm and varieties. Existing genetic resources are especially well developed for breeding and genetics of cucurbits and pepper. Techniques employed may include whole plant, population and molecular/cellular approaches. The appointee will be expected to develop a strong externally funded program, advise and direct graduate students, release improved germplasm and/or varieties, interact with stakeholders, and actively participate in Cornell’s Vegetable Breeding Institute. Teaching responsibilities include a 4-credit course at the undergraduate level and participation in journal clubs at the graduate level. Preference will be given to candidates interested in forming interactive networks with faculty in related fields such as horticulture, plant pathology, plant biology and computational biology and willingness to serve as a resource person for students and faculty in the area of plant genetics and disease resistance. Personal statements summarizing teaching experience and interests, leadership efforts, and contributions to diversity are encouraged. For more information visit our web site http://plbrgen.cals.cornell.edu.

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Ph.D. in plant breeding, plant genetics, or plant molecular biology
- Experience in teaching, student advising, and research related to this position, either post-doctoral or pre-doctoral
- Evidence of ability to work with other researchers in interdisciplinary inquiry
- Evidence of ability to attract extramural support and lead an innovative research/breeding program
- Postdoctoral and/or other relevant experience desirable.

SALARY: Competitive and commensurate with background and experience. An attractive fringe benefits package is available.

APPLICATIONS: Send a letter of application, complete resume, and academic transcripts to: Dr. Mark Sorrells, Search Committee Chair c/o Cynda Farnham, 240 Emerson Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-1901 and have three letters of reference sent to the same address. Inquiries about the position may be directed to Cynda Farnham, 240 Emerson Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-1901; clf4@cornell.edu; 607-254-7261; 607-255-6683 (fax).

Ithaca, NY – Located in the heart of the fingerlakes region

What makes Ithaca unique...? Is it the towering waterfalls, lush ice-age gorges, endless panoramic views? Is it the hiking, the biking, the boating? Is it the beauty of Cayuga Lake, the largest of the Finger Lakes? Maybe it's the buzz from Cornell University and Ithaca College. The quality of our museums, galleries, restaurants, theaters, nightclubs, and the famous Ithaca festivals contribute to the novelty of Ithaca. Diversity is apparent downtown on the pedestrian mall, the Ithaca Commons, where PhDs cross paths with street musicians, and families stroll the solar system on an interactive "planet walk." The bumper stickers say "Ithaca is Gorges," but it's more than that. Ithaca is beautiful in many unexpected ways. It's intense and laid-back and disdainful of convention. Ithaca is Ithaca. Adapted from “The Ithaca Experience.” Visit Ithaca in New York’s Finger Lakes. 6 Jan. 2004. Ithaca/Tompkins County Convention & Visitors Bureau. 7 Jan. 2008 <www.visiththaca.com>.”