Dr. Paul Verburg is inviting applications for a Ph.D. student to start in Fall 2016. The student is expected to assess how halophytic (salt-loving) plants affect soil quality focusing on salinity. The project consists of field-based studies with an opportunity to conduct lab or greenhouse experiments. The applicant should have a strong background in soil science with undergraduate or graduate degrees in soil science, geochemistry, hydrology or a related field. Strong quantitative skills and experience with data analysis are desired. The student will be part of a large interdisciplinary project focusing on the utility of halophytic (salt-loving) crops for food or biofuel production on lands affected by salinity or receiving saline irrigation water. As part of this project the student has the opportunity and is expected to collaborate with plant physiologists, agronomists, biochemists and hydrochemical modelers.