

POSITION DESCRIPTION

A postdoctoral position is available in the Department of Entomology at the University of California Riverside to work on the genetic and molecular basis of insecticide resistance in glassy winged sharpshooter (GWSS) – the primary vector of the bacteria *Xylella fastidiosa*, which causes Pierce's Disease in grapevines. Recent insecticidal control failures and corresponding surges in GWSS numbers have raised serious concerns about the status of insecticide susceptibility in Californian populations of GWSS. The successful candidate will (1) determine the current resistance status of GWSS in California agricultural and nursery settings, (2) elucidate the genetic and molecular underpinnings of any resistance, and (3) design tools and assays for use in an integrated insecticide resistance management plan. Additionally, the postdoc is encouraged to develop new lines of work (e.g. population genomics, ecological modeling, etc.) on GWSS.

The project, funded by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, is a collaborative effort headed by Drs. Frank Byrne, Rick Redak, and Bradley White. The postdoc will be supervised by Dr. White, but will also work closely with the other PIs. After completion of the project, the postdoc will have substantial experience designing and conducting bioassays, analyzing next-generation sequencing data, and communicating policy recommendations to growers. As such, the position represents an excellent opportunity to acquire a unique combination of skills that serve as good training for various positions in academia, industry, and government.

We are looking for someone with expertise in evolutionary biology, insect ecology, vector biology, insect toxicology, and/or agricultural entomology. Familiarity with next-generation sequencing analysis is a positive, but not required. Regardless of prior experience, we expect the candidate to develop a wide-knowledge base and skillset. The position is for one year with the possibility of renewal for up to three years total. Salary will be commensurate with experience level.

For additional information about the White Laboratory please navigate to www.mosquitogenomics.org

TO APPLY

A minimum qualification is a PhD or equivalent in Biology, Entomology, or a related discipline. Applicants with multiple, first-author publications are preferred. To apply, please send a brief description of previous research (1 page), a CV, and contact information for three references to bwhite@ucr.edu. A start date in Fall 2014 is ideal, but negotiable. Position is open until filled.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The White Lab is housed in the relatively new Entomology Building at UCR. We have access to state of the art genomic and bioinformatics core facilities and are part of the Center for Disease Vector Control (CDVR), which is composed of a diverse and highly talented group of scientists studying insect vectors of animal, human, and plant diseases. Substantial resources for field experiments are available through the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) facilities.

UCR is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer with a commitment to workforce diversity. **AA/EOE**

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