

University of Minnesota

Twin Cities Campus

Department of Plant Pathology

*College of Food, Agricultural
and Natural Resource Sciences*

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Research Fellow, #185326
Department of Plant Pathology

A Research Fellow position is available in the horticultural plant pathology program which addresses disease of horticultural crops including turf, ornamental plants (herbaceous and woody), fruit, and vegetables. This position is located in the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS) at the University of Minnesota. The horticultural plant pathology laboratory is committed to developing disease management practices that are consistent with integrated pest management and a sustainable agricultural philosophy. Specific projects will include the development of in-field/rapid diagnostic assays, evaluating cultural practices and reduced-risk chemistries for disease suppression, discovering and assessing biological control organisms of diseases and weeds, and public education programs for reducing the environmental inputs/impacts in agriculture.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Master's degree with specialization in plant pathology, horticulture, or other field with relevant experience. Experience with field experiments and some microbiology and molecular biology competencies. Previous experience isolating and culturing bacteria and fungi from plant/soil samples is critical. Ability to perform basic statistical analysis of data. Experience with general laboratory practices including making buffers, maintaining culture collections, ordering supplies, and waste disposal, maintaining a clean and organized laboratory.

Preferred Qualifications:

Field and/or diagnostic experience with turfgrass or ornamental pathogens, experience isolating and identifying plant pathogenic nematodes, molecular biology experience, and database maintenance are all preferred. Ability to troubleshoot laboratory procedures and work under minimal supervision is desired.

Duties/Responsibilities

40 % The fellow will assist in performing field and greenhouse trials evaluating biological, cultural, and chemical disease management techniques.

40 % The fellow will be expected to perform diagnostic assays for turfgrass diseases as well as diagnosis of plants (turf, ornamental plants, fruit, and vegetables) and soil from surveys of Minnesota horticultural and landscape operations.

10 % The fellow will also be required to provide assistance and mentorship to undergraduate and graduate students working in the lab.

10 % The fellow will be occasionally requested to present research and results to the academic community at state/national meetings, at the University level, and with industry stakeholders. Some travel may be required.

Hours of work and days are flexible, typically Monday-Friday, or as arranged. Position is a full-time, 100% appointment, and is annually renewable. Starting pay is \$32,522 per year plus excellent fringe benefits.

Application Instructions

Please apply online via the Employment System at: employment.umn.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=112437.

Please submit resume, cover letter and the names, affiliation/job title and phone numbers of three professional references.

Questions can be addressed to Professor Angela Orshinsky via email at aorshins@umn.edu or at 612-625-9274.

As an institution committed to demonstrating excellence through diversity, the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences is committed to hiring a diverse faculty and staff, and actively encourages candidates from historically underrepresented groups to apply.

Any offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of a background check. Our presumption is that prospective employees are eligible to work here. Criminal convictions do not automatically disqualify finalists from employment.

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status or sexual orientation.