

Assistant Professor and Fungal Biologist / Plant Pathologist
Department of Plant Pathology
College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences
University of Minnesota, St Paul, Minnesota

Position: The Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Minnesota is searching for an outstanding candidate to fill a faculty position in the area of soil-borne fungi/Oomycetes pathogens. This position is a nine-month, 50% research and 50% teaching, tenure-track appointment at the rank of assistant professor.

Responsibilities:

Research: The selected candidate will carry out basic, applied or translational research on soil-associated filamentous fungi/Oomycetes causing plant diseases. The primary research emphasis of this position will be on soilborne fungi/Oomycetes causing crop diseases important to Minnesota agriculture (e.g., *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, *Diaporthe* spp.). Productive engagement with key industry and commodity partners is expected. The successful individual will use cutting-edge approaches to explore research topics such as pathogenesis, pathogenomics, fungal-plant interactions, resistance to soil-borne diseases, plant disease management, functional genomics or proteomics of fungal pathogens, fungal diversity, ecology, or evolutionary dynamics in agro-ecosystems. The incumbent will be expected to develop strong extramural support for their research program and to incorporate undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral researchers. The successful candidate will have access to outstanding research and teaching facilities at the University of Minnesota and the opportunity to collaborate with a large number of its faculty and staff working with and having varied experience with fungal and Oomycete pathogens.

Teaching: The successful candidate will be committed to teaching at the graduate and/or undergraduate level. This position offers significant potential to teach courses essential for the graduate program in plant pathology, to develop courses that align with the interests of non-major undergraduate students, and to integrate active learning, experiential learning, and/or on-line teaching methodologies. A 50% teaching assignment equates to an expectation of one course per semester and six credits per year, on average. This individual will also be expected to mentor and advise graduate and undergraduate students and post-doctoral researchers.

Qualifications:

Required: Ph.D. in plant pathology, plant sciences, mycology, microbiology, or other relevant biological sciences. Demonstrated research experience in relevant areas of fungal/Oomycete biology or plant diseases caused by fungi/Oomycetes. A publication record in fungal/Oomycete biology or plant

pathology in internationally recognized peer-reviewed journals. Evidence of excellent communication skills.

Preferred: Postdoctoral experience is strongly preferred. Proven ability to conduct innovative, original research in lab and field environments particularly on plant pathogenic soil-borne fungi/Oomycetes. Successful grant writing experience. Demonstrated ability to use the latest genomic, molecular and/or biochemical, genetic, and physiological approaches. Experience with research conducted in a field environment and directed at plant disease management. Demonstrated teaching experience at the university-level and a commitment to mentoring students. Demonstrated experience in and an ongoing commitment to working effectively with and across diverse communities and identities.

Salary and Benefits: Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications. The University's outstanding fringe benefits package includes participation in the University's faculty retirement program; group life, medical, and dental insurance plans; and sabbatical, semester, and parental leave opportunities. Detailed benefits information is available at: <http://humanresources.umn.edu/benefits>

Application Instructions: Interested applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, cover letter, 2-3 page statement of research plans and experience, 1-2 page statement of teaching experience and philosophy, the names and contact information for three references, and a brief statement (up to one page) describing interest, experience with, and commitment to diversity and inclusiveness to the online application system described below. Review of applications will begin April 1st and continue until the position is filled. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the chair of the search committee, Dr. Robert Blanchette, at robertb@umn.edu or 612-625-0202.

How to Apply: Please submit your application materials online via the University of Minnesota Employment System: <https://humanresources.umn.edu/jobs> , **Job ID 335094**.

Additional information about the Department of Plant Pathology can be found at: <http://plpa.cfans.umn.edu/> and about the College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences at: <http://www.cfans.umn.edu>

Any offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of a background check.

The University of Minnesota provides equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. As an institution committed to demonstrating excellence through diversity, the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and the University are committed to hiring a diverse faculty and staff, and strongly encourage candidates from historically underrepresented groups to apply. We welcome you to visit our college's Diversity and Inclusion web page at: <http://www.cfans.umn.edu/diversity/>