PhD opportunity in Plant Pathology

Interactions between pathogens causing root rot of field pea and lentil

Project description: The objectives of the project are to characterize the nature of the interactions between the oomycete pathogen, *Aphanomyces euteiches*, and pathogenic *Fusarium* species that contribute to root rot of pulse crops. The project will entail greenhouse inoculation studies with multiple pathogens and tracking changes in pathogen infection and colonization dynamics using molecular quantification and gene expression techniques.

Qualifications: An ideal candidate should have background knowledge through work experience in microbiology and molecular biology. Experience in growing and maintaining plants in a greenhouse, use of sterile technique for growing microorganisms, and DNA extraction and quantification analysis is essential. Evidence of effective science communication (ability to write scientifically) will be assessed during the screening process. Candidates must be eligible for admission into a PhD program at the University of Saskatchewan in the Department of Plant Sciences.

Funding: Includes an annual stipend of $30,000.00 (CAN), travel to conferences and research costs.

Location: Research will be conducted at the Lethbridge Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. Coursework will be done at the University of Saskatchewan and thus the student should be willing to re-locate to Saskatoon for 1 – 2 semesters to complete course work.

Start date: Screening of candidates starts in November 2024, with an anticipated start date of May 2025.

Applications are open to Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and non-Canadian citizens already living in Canada, only.

For further information and/or to apply, please email letter of application, including CV and contact details for 2 referees to:

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