

Biorational Management of Pests and Vectors

RESEARCH SCIENTIST IN INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Position Title: Researcher (Titular A).

Employment Status: Full-Time, 12 months. The appointment is renewable depending upon performance. After three years, candidates can apply for tenure.

General Description: Research will be performed in the Biorational Pest and Vector Management Group in a team with three other scientists and three technicians that are experts on fruit flies (Tephritidae), biological control, insect virus ecology, and biopesticide development. The successful candidate does not necessarily require previous experience working with fruit flies but will be expected to integrate knowledge on fruit fly biology, ecology, behavior, genetics, natural enemies and monitoring tools to develop biorational (IPM) fruit fly management schemes for key tropical fruit commodities (citrus, mango, guava, sapodilla and others). Virtually all research will be carried out in the field in collaboration with local growers and government agencies. Biorational fruit fly management schemes/systems will be evaluated and compared to conventional systems, fine tuned and expanded to incorporate other classes of tree-fruit pests/diseases. Area-wide/regional adoption will be fostered among growers and governmental agencies. Expertise in population and/or landscape ecology, pest management theory, sampling/monitoring/forecasting theory and practice, economics of pest management, statistics, using geographic systems is desirable as well as strong grant-writing, computer, negotiating and oral/writing skills. Practical experience in dealing with insecticides and their application is also desirable. Modeling abilities would also be useful.

Responsibilities:

- ☐ Integrate pest management tools rooted in tephritid fruit fly biology, ecology and behavior into biorational (IPM) fruit fly management schemes/systems for tropical fruit tree production.
- ☐ Evaluate and compare effectiveness, cost and practicality of biorational (IPM) fruit fly management schemes/systems/programs in comparison with conventional pest management techniques in the field.
- ☐ Foster area-wide/regional adoption of sustainable pest management programs among local growers.
- ☐ Improve and fine tune promising programs and widen biorational (IPM) fruit fly management approaches to deal with other classes of pests in collaboration with Mexican and international scientists.
- ☐ Teaching at INECOL Master's and Doctorate programs.
- ☐ Supervising graduate students.
- ☐ Write competitive grants to fund research activities targeted at Mexican and international Organizations and/or government agencies, and also to private companies.
- ☐ Publish in internationally recognized scientific journals outreach journals and publications intended for the general public, and occasionally in books.

Qualifications:

- ☐ Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Science or Biology with a doctoral degree in entomology or a closely related subject.
- ☐ At least one postdoctoral position in area of expertise.
- ☐ Expertise in population/landscape ecology, pest management theory, sampling/monitoring/forecasting theory and practice, economics of pest management, statistics, and GIS.
- ☐ Willingness to perform on-farm research and to travel to rural communities.
- ☐ Hands-on experience working with commercial fruit growers.
- ☐ Experience living and working in Latin America is desirable but not required.
- ☐ Fluency in Spanish and English, both spoken and written, is required.
- ☐ Excellent interpersonal skills, assertiveness and ability to negotiate, to deal with pressure and complex situations under stress, and multitask skills.

- ☐ Proven grant-writing skills.
- ☐ Ability to work with private sector as well as government agencies.
- ☐ Skills in constructing and working in multidisciplinary teams and to treat inhabitants of rural areas respectfully.
- ☐ Work outside of regular business hours and travel is required.
- ☐ Authorship of 5-7 scientific publications in high quality international journals with impact factor in field of expertise with preferably at least three as first or corresponding author.
- ☐ A driving license.

Application Procedure

Applicants should submit a cover letter describing their qualifications for the position, a copy of their curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references including phone numbers and e-mail addresses. References will be contacted only for the finalists. Please send all documents as PDF or Word files to:

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[Applications will be received until the position is filled](#)