



Insect Population Dynamics – Graduate Student Position Available

School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph

Enhanced modeling of swede midge population dynamics in North America.

Project summary:

I am currently seeking an enthusiastic, committed, and hard-working graduate student (Ph.D. or M.Sc.) interested in investigating factors affecting population dynamics of the invasive pest, *Contarinia nasturtii*, and developing an improved population dynamics model for this pest. The model will be used in novel ways to elucidate possible differences among regional populations, as well as for predictive insights about the conditions affecting occurrence of economically damaging populations. The project will also include experimental studies to further our understanding of factors controlling emergence phenotypes and maximum diapause duration in the swede midge, which will be incorporated into the model.

This project is part of a larger research program on the ecology and management of this important invasive species in canola and cruciferous vegetables.

Qualifications:

Applications for a Ph.D. level position are preferred, but consideration will also be given to a M.Sc. position. The preferred candidate will hold a BSc and/or MSc degree in entomology, ecology or a related discipline. The successful candidate should have a keen interest in entomology, ecology and insect-plant interactions, and a willingness to learn modelling approaches and software packages. Candidates must be able to work independently and as part of a collaborative team.

Applicants must meet the admission requirements for the School of Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph. More information is available at:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/ses/programs/prospective-graduate-students>

Start date and stipend:

Anticipated start date of September 2016.

Funding is guaranteed for 3 years at the Ph.D level and 2 years at the M.Sc. level.

To apply:

Applicants should send a cover letter outlining your research interests, a current CV, unofficial transcripts and contact information for 3 academic references, as soon as possible, by email to:

Dr. Rebecca Hallett

rhallett@uoguelph.ca

Applications will be accepted until a suitable candidate is found.

See <https://www.uoguelph.ca/ses/users/rhallett> for more information on Dr. Hallett's research programs.

The logo for the University of Guelph, featuring the text 'UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH' in a serif font, with 'OF' in a smaller font size between 'UNIVERSITY' and 'GUELPH'. The logo is set against a dark background.

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The tagline for the University of Guelph, 'CHANGING LIVES IMPROVING LIFE', is displayed in a white, sans-serif font on a blue rectangular background.

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