

## Assistant Professor – Phytobacteriology

The Department of Entomology & Plant Pathology at North Carolina State University invites applications for a 9-month tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level in Phytobacteriology. This faculty position is located on the main campus in Raleigh and carries responsibilities for research, teaching, and extension. The candidate is expected to develop an innovative program of hypotheses-driven research aiming to understand how bacteria (symbionts or pathogens) affect plant responses to biotic or abiotic stress. Program emphases can include, but are not limited to, bacterial evolution in agricultural settings within the framework of plant disease resistance or abiotic stress to improve management of fast-evolving bacteria and crop yields; plant-microbe interactions at the molecular, cellular, organismal, or population levels; studying interactions of foliar epiphytic or endophytic bacterial communities with the soil microbiota and ultimately with the plant. The Phytobacteriologist will have a strong foundation in basic research but will take their findings one step further into translation working with non-model organisms (food, feed, fiber, or ornamental crops) to enhance plant health through improved bacterial disease management. The individual is expected to develop an area of relevant expertise while maintaining a breadth of knowledge regarding plant-associated prokaryotes.

Significant opportunities exist for collaborations with university faculty and members of several research centers, including the Departments of Plant and Microbial Biology, Crop and Soil Science, Horticulture, and Food, Bioprocessing, and Nutrition Science; the Center for Integrated Fungal Research (CIFR); and the Microbiomes and Emerging Plant Disease and Global Food Security Faculty Clusters. Current faculty members with expertise in CRISPR genome editing techniques in bacteria could also provide exciting opportunities for collaboration. NC State's location in the Research Triangle Park provides unique opportunities for interactions with multiple agricultural industries and the North Carolina Biotechnology Center; other major universities, including Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; local research networking groups such as the North Carolina Microbiome Consortium; NC Department of Agriculture and several federal agencies.

The candidate is expected to generate extramural funding to help support their research program following start-up resources. The candidate will teach a core Plant Pathology graduate class on a yearly basis, mentor graduate students, and participate in the academic programs of the department through guest lectures and seminars. The candidate will also support and collaborate with Extension Specialists in the Department by providing bacteriology expertise for applied research and diagnostic efforts of bacterial diseases of North Carolina crops.

Minimum qualifications include a PhD in a field of study directly related to the position. A demonstrated background in plant pathology, microbiology, or related fields, and expertise in ecology, evolution, host and microbe interactions, and/or functional genomics of plant-associated bacteria are preferred. NC State University is especially interested in qualified candidates who can contribute, through their experience, research, teaching, extension, and/or service, to the diversity and excellence of the academic community. In addition to excellence in research and teaching, the incumbent is expected to have demonstrable skills in verbal and written communication, and interpersonal relations. The position includes a competitive and comprehensive compensation and start-up package. **Review of applications will proceed as of April 1, 2018 until the position is filled.** For further information, contact the Entomology & Plant Pathology Department Head, Dr. Eric Davis (eric\_davis@ncsu.edu). For a complete job description and details for submission of applications, please see: <http://jobs.ncsu.edu/postings/96075>

NC State is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. Women and members of other underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply. In addition, NC State University welcomes all persons without regard to sexual orientation or genetic information. We welcome the opportunity to work with candidates to identify suitable employment opportunities for spouses or partners. Inclusiveness and diversity are integral to NC State's commitment to excellence in research, engagement, and education. The successful candidate will be expected to foster an environment that is welcoming of all groups.

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