

Position Announcement

Assistant Professor of Entomology – Chemical Ecology Department of Entomology Texas A&M University

Position Description. Assistant Professor of Entomology – Chemical Ecology, 10-month tenure-track appointment located in the Department of Entomology, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. The appointment is structured as 62% research, 33% teaching, and 5% service. We are seeking a highly innovative and collaborative scientist who investigates the chemical signals that mediate host-seeking in arthropods. The position will be a research/teaching appointment and the incumbent is expected to develop an active research program that is externally funded. The successful candidate will be a member of the Graduate Faculty in Entomology and expected to advise graduate students and teach graduate and undergraduate courses.

For more information, see <http://entomology.tamu.edu>.

Qualifications. Ph.D. or equivalent degree in Entomology or related field is required and must be completed prior to the date of the appointment to the faculty. Candidates should have a strong record of scholarly achievement including peer-reviewed journal publications, demonstrated success in securing grants or a strong potential to secure extramural funding. Desired qualifications include training and experience in state of the art chemical approaches to identify biologically active compounds that underlie host-seeking behaviors in arthropods. Additional desired qualifications include experience teaching at the undergraduate or graduate level and experience in mentoring students. The successful candidate will demonstrate an ability to collaborate in multidisciplinary teams and have excellent written and oral communication skills.

Research (62%). Development of a strong, extramurally funded research program in chemical ecology is expected. The successful candidate will have a demonstrated program isolating and identifying chemicals that mediate arthropod behavior. The research program should employ a multi-disciplinary approach to address important questions in fundamental areas spanning vector biology, cell biology, genetics, neurobiology, ecology, evolution, and pest management. Demonstrated experience conducting and publishing research on aspects of chemicals modulating arthropod host-seeking behavior is expected. Candidates who have worked with blood feeding arthropods resulting in understanding the role chemical ecology plays in pathogen transmission are highly desirable.

Teaching (33%). Teaching duties will include both undergraduate and graduate courses in Entomology that are appropriate to the expertise and interests of the appointee and that address the needs of the department. The faculty member would be expected to develop a graduate level course in Chemical Ecology and could contribute to currently offered undergraduate courses such as: ENTO 424, *Insect Ecology* and other courses in the curriculum. The Department offers two undergraduate degrees, one in Entomology and a second program in Forensic and Investigative Sciences. Graduate degrees include MS and PhD programs in Entomology and several interdisciplinary degree granting programs in genetics, neurobiology, biotechnology, and ecology & evolutionary biology, etc. Teaching also involves mentoring of undergraduate researchers, MS and PhD students, and post-docs as appropriate and is expected of all faculty.

Service (5%). Department, College, University, and Professional service appropriate to each individual's talents and skills are expected of all faculty as are expression of good citizenship through participation in department activities (seminars, faculty meetings, committee assignments and other associated activities), interacting with special interest groups, and timely completion of professional development and human resources responsibilities.

Other Opportunities and Facilities. Substantial opportunities exist for the appointee to utilize resources and facilities located at Texas A&M University such as the Insect Collection, a biosafety level 2-Ag quarantine facility where exotic species can be kept if permitted by USDA APHIS PPQ, and access to a shared BSL3 space designed to contain insect vectored animal pathogens, and a centrally managed 3,000 acre farm where field experiments can be conducted. The appointee will have an opportunity to engage with a variety of interdisciplinary research programs such as those in Forensic and Investigative Sciences, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Vector Biology Research Group, Institute for Neuroscience, and Molecular and Environmental Plant Sciences. The Department of Entomology at Texas A&M has a total of 48 faculty with 28 faculty and 2 lecturers located on-campus in College Station and 18 faculty located off campus at research and extension centers throughout the state. In addition to the faculty there are 16 extension program specialists and IPM agents that work out of county extension offices and these professionals provide excellent opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration at the local level.

Salary. Salary will be commensurate with the incumbent's qualifications and experience. A generous benefits package accompanies all faculty positions with respect to access to health care, sick leave, and retirement benefits (see: <http://employees.tamu.edu/benefits/general/>). A generous start-up package will be provided.

Administrative Relationship. The Department of Entomology at Texas A&M administers faculty located on-campus in College Station and at research and extension centers throughout the State of Texas. Supervision is provided by the Department Head of Entomology and the Associate Head for Extension Entomology where appropriate. Ultimately the department reports to senior administrators in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Directors of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and AgriLife Research. Each faculty member shall exhibit collegiality to all faculty, staff, students, clientele groups, and local administrators. Faculty are expected to cooperate and collaborate with faculty as appropriate for the successful execution of their general duties and responsibilities in support of the Department's mission, goals, and code of conduct statement.

Closing date. Review of applications will begin on 17 October 2016 (or until a suitable candidate is identified). Send all application materials to:

Department of Entomology
Texas A&M University
Attn: Ms. Teresa Gold
Minnie Belle Heep Center Room 412
College Station, Texas 77843-2475
Phone: (979) 845-2510
Email: t-gold@tamu.edu

Application Process. The Department of Entomology, together with Texas A&M University and Texas A&M AgriLife Research, seeks individuals who are able to work with diverse students and colleagues, who have experience with a variety of teaching methods and curricular perspectives, and who will contribute to the diversity efforts of the University. Applicants should also address how their research and teaching programs will contribute to addressing the Grand Challenges identified by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (<http://aqlifesciences.tamu.edu/about/grand-challenges/>). Applications must include a letter of interest that describes your research interest, your teaching and student mentorship experience along with a complete CV, copies of transcripts, and names of three references whom we may contact for letters of recommendation. Please provide a complete mailing address, email and phone number, and a brief statement of how each referee knows the candidate. Visit <http://entomology.tamu.edu> and for more information about the department.