



Doctoral Student (PhD)

Herbivore Ecology, Behavior and Immunology lab
Virginia Tech
Department of Entomology
Blacksburg, Virginia

Application Deadline: Open until filled

Start date: Negotiable

Lab website: <https://www.enakshighosh.com/>

Qualifications

- 1) Master's degree in physiology, ecology, entomology, or a closely related field
- 2) Strong conceptual foundation in evolution, physiology, chemistry and/or immunology
- 3) Experience with experimental biology (lab and/or field-based systems)
- 4) Interest in insect-plant interactions, eco-immunology, and chemical ecology
- 5) Ability to work independently and collaboratively in a research setting
- 6) Strong written and verbal communication skills

Description

We are seeking a highly motivated PhD student to investigate how plant defense metabolites shape herbivore immune expression within an eco-evolutionary framework. This project integrates chemical ecology, insect immunology, and evolutionary biology to understand how plant secondary metabolites influence immune function, physiological trade-offs, and susceptibility to natural enemies.

Application Materials

Send the following by email as a single PDF: Curriculum Vitae (CV), One-page research statement, Unofficial transcripts, Contact information for 3 references to Dr. Enakshi Ghosh, enakshi@vt.edu.

Please note that submission of these materials should be done alongside a formal application to the graduate program in Entomology at Virginia Tech, following departmental and university admissions procedures (<https://www.ento.vt.edu/home.html>).