Position Announcement

Department of Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Cornell University

Position: Extension Associate/Senior Extension Associate, non-tenure track

Start Date: Summer/Fall 2014

Location: Hudson Valley Laboratory, Highland, NY. Cornell University’s Hudson Valley Lab (HVL) is located in the heart of the Hudson Valley fruit-growing region, 90 miles north of New York City. It has 20 acres of experimental orchards and associated equipment designed for and dedicated to applied research on tree fruit crops, in addition to the basic laboratory facilities necessary for microbiological studies. The research/extension team at the facility has traditionally included a pomologist, an entomologist, a plant pathologist, and an extension educator dedicated to fruit crops. Scientists at the HVL work closely with each other, with their campus-based colleagues and with local fruit and vegetable growers and packers/shippers, who actively support, promote, and provide feedback on associated research and extension programs.

Responsibilities: The successful candidate will be responsible for leading Cornell’s tree fruit pathology program in the Hudson Valley and eastern New York region. S/he will be expected to develop an extension program that effectively conveys relevant information on disease management to the tree fruit industry in eastern New York and beyond, and an applied research program that generates new information for inclusion in this programming. Although the successful candidate will operate independently, programmatic efforts should be developed and undertaken in coordination with appropriate Cornell faculty located in Geneva and Ithaca as well as other scientists at the Hudson Valley Lab. Areas of research focus can encompass fungal, bacterial, viral, and abiotic causes of fruit crop diseases and the tools used to control them, and should include components of disease biology as well as management. It is expected that extension programming will utilize not only traditional techniques and approaches but will also include innovative new approaches using modern communications technologies. Collaborative work with colleagues at Cornell and other universities is expected, as is publication of new findings in appropriate outlets. For candidates with a Ph.D. degree, involvement in graduate education through participation on relevant thesis research committees is encouraged. The scientist in this position will be required to obtain external grant funding to support the extension and research programs. Available sources include a significant apple industry check-off fund in addition to traditional agrichemical industry and federal/state funding programs.

Qualifications: Minimum: M. S. in Plant Pathology or closely related discipline with at least 3 years of relevant post-graduate experience.

Preferred: Ph.D. in Plant Pathology or closely related discipline, with experience in applied research.

Prior experience with fruit crop diseases, managing research plantings of perennial crops, and/or professional interactions with agricultural producers is desirable. Excellent communication
skills and an ability to work well with a diverse group of academic colleagues and non-academic stakeholders is essential.

The successful candidate will obtain a NYS commercial pesticide applicator license in categories 1A & 10. Possession of a valid driver’s license is required.

**Salary:** Competitive, commensurate with background and experience. An attractive fringe benefits package is available.

**Application procedure:** A letter of application, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references should be submitted electronically to Dr. Wayne Wilcox, Search Committee Chair, via academic jobs online at [https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/Cornell/PlantPath](https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/Cornell/PlantPath)

Cornell University is committed to hiring and promoting a diverse faculty.

Review of applications will begin June 15, 2014 and will continue until the position is filled.