

Postdoc position in Microbial ecology/Chemical ecology

USDA-ARS, US Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center

Hilo, Hawaii, USA

Application Deadline: November 1, 2020

Start date: As early as December 1, 2020, but flexible

Qualifications

The position requires a PhD in a relevant field (e.g., microbiology, ecology, entomology) with expertise in one or more of the following and related fields: microbial ecology, chemical ecology, insect physiology, and insect behavior. Candidates should have strong interpersonal and communication skills, excellent oral and written communication skills, and the ability to work independently and as part of a team. There is no US citizenship requirement for this position.

Description

We seek to hire a highly motivated postdoctoral associate to increase our understanding of the microbial ecology of fruit flies and to explore functional roles of microorganisms on insect behavior and fitness. One of main areas of emphasis for this position will be to identify microbial odor based chemical attractants and repellents for *Bactrocera* fruit flies and develop semiochemical based behavioral management tools. The successful candidate will take a lead role in identification and culture of microbes isolated from fruit flies and host plants of the flies, selective manipulation of microbes to determine the role of different microbes on important behaviors of the flies, collection and analysis of microbial volatiles, and behavioral testing of identified volatiles for modification of fly behavior. There will be opportunities to develop independent and collaborative research. Salary commensurate with experience with an excellent benefits package. The appointment will initially be for one year and annually renewable upon successful performance.

Application Materials

To apply, please email a single PDF including cover letter, CV, and names and contact information of 3 references to Dong Cha (dong.cha@usda.gov), with the subject line as "microbe postdoc <your name>".

Submit applications and further questions to:

Contact Person: Dong Cha

Address: 64 Nowelo St., Hilo, HI 96720, USA

Phone: 1-808-932-2115

E-mail: dong.cha@usda.gov