

Graduate Studies Opportunity
with
Department of Biological Sciences
at Simon Fraser University
and
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Master of Pest Management (MPM)



January 2019 – March 2021

This is an exciting opportunity for a student interested in insect biocontrol using microorganisms, travel, and a blend of field and laboratory research. We have developed new active ingredients that have promise for controlling pestilent wireworms (Coleoptera: Elateridae) and demonstrated their ability to protect potatoes from wireworm feeding damage. These novel products now need to be adapted to a range of field vegetable crops by testing application patterns e.g. timing, rate, and placement at field sites in Prince Edward Island and British Columbia. Laboratory research supporting the field trials can include wireworm behavioural responses to the bioproducts, development of infection degree-day models, and the comparative evaluation of CO₂ (wireworm attractant and bioproduct component) production under simulated conditions. In addition to academic competency, the successful candidate will be familiar with agricultural production, have a good work ethic, a strong sense of responsibility, and the ability to work with farmers and plan and manage field trials taking place concurrently at two ends of the country during the growing season. A Class 5 driver's license will allow the student to drive a Government of Canada vehicle for research work. Preference will be given to a Canadian citizen.

The student will receive a stipend ranging from \$21,480 - \$23,840/year, plus expenses for travel to field sites in BC and PEI. All course work will be carried out at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC and a significant amount of the work (about half the time) will take place at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Research and Development Centre in Agassiz to access land for field trials and specialized instrumentation for lab studies. The town of Agassiz is 1.5 hours from Vancouver, and within walking/biking distance to the research centre, offers affordable accommodation in private houses or apartments, and has a variety of shops and services (e.g. pharmacy, grocery, bakery, café, bar, etc.). There are many outdoor activities in the area. Agassiz is 8km from the resort town of Harrison Hot Springs.

Those interested in this position must apply through the Government of Canada website:

www.canada.ca/en/public-service-commission/jobs/services/gc-jobs.html (click on 'Search for Jobs') between August 3 and August 20, 2018 (the latter date being the deadline). For further information, contact Todd.Kabaluk@agr.gc.ca or Jenny Cory (jsc21@sfu.ca)