

PhD Studentship plus: Determination of the key parameters influencing dislodgeable foliar pesticide residues.

Qualification type: PhD with industry experience

Location: UK – Bracknell, Berks & Hatfield, Herts

Funding for: No restriction
Stipend: Starts at £14,777

Start date: Negotiable - Summer 2018

Time period / hours: 4 years full time
Application deadline 5pm 30th April 2018

This is a 1-year industrial knowledge exchange placement followed by a 3-year PhD studentship funded jointly by the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and Syngenta plc.

Project description: Pesticide Dislodgeable Foliar Residues (DFRs) refers to the amount of pesticide residue on plant foliage that, on contact, can be transferred to, for example, human skin and clothing. These data are used in determining post-application human exposure to and risk from pesticides. The broad aim of this 4-yr work programme is to better understand the factors that affect the occurrence and behaviour of DFR's with the intention of enabling the refinement of risk assessments. The work is expected to include analysis of existing large datasets, laboratory and field work and analytical instrumentation. This is a unique opportunity to gain pesticide science experience working with a strong supervisory team and using exceptional research facilities available at both establishments. For more details visit: http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/opportunities.htm

Eligibility and requirements:

Essential minimum requirements:

- Honours degree at 2:1 level or equivalent in a plant science related discipline;
- Strong, proven data analytical skills including statistical analysis;
- Willing and able to undertake field and laboratory work under own initiative;
- Effective and proven communication skills including a high level of written and spoken fluency in English;
- Computer literacy.

Desirable requirements:

- Masters degree in an appropriate subject and/or relevant work experience;
- Valid driving licence;
- Good working knowledge of European crop protection.

Funding: The 4-year PhD studentship plus will pay an annual stipend starting at £14,777 in year 1 and all UK/EU tuition fees will be covered. In addition, a generous budget for other expenses such as a laptop will be provided.

Training: The student will receive training in all the necessary skills and techniques. The principal supervisors will be (i) at the University of Hertfordshire: Professor Kathy Lewis and Dr Doug Warner, (ii) at Syngenta: Dr Neil Morgan and Rob Mason. Other experts will be available as required.

How to apply: Eligible applicants interested in this opportunity may obtain an application pack from hsp@herts.ac.uk and once completed returned via this email address by the deadline date (30/4/2018). Informal enquiries from potential applicants may also be made directly to Prof. Kathy Lewis at k.a.lewis@herts.ac.uk. Other information can be found at: http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/opportunities.htm.

Notes:

- Attendance will be required at two sites (Syngenta at Jealott's Hill, Berkshire and the University of Hertfordshire main campus in Hatfield and the Bayfordbury field station). Travel to and between sites will be at the students own expense.
- Interviews are expected to take place in mid-May 2018.
- Applicants from overseas may be interviewed via Skype.
- Depending on the number of applicants, short-listing *may* take place and selected applicants may be asked to provide additional information (e.g. write a short essay or a relevant subject) or present a short presentation at a second interview. This will be advised.
- The stipend provided, whilst generous by many UK standards, will probably not fully cover living expenses in the SE of England if the student is living alone with no other financial support.