

New Master's position in 'Field Insect Ecology and Public Outreach'

We seek a highly motivated student to study ecology and behavior of a highly invasive insect pest, brown marmorated stink bug, in Utah's urban-agricultural landscapes, beginning August 2017. Specifically, the project will focus on determining the phenology (timing and development) of brown marmorated stink bug life stages (eggs, nymphs, and adults), and comparing efficacy of traps and pheromone lures for adults in fruit and adjacent crops. Participation in public outreach activities is expected.

The stipend will be funded by USDA NIFA SCRI and Farm Bill Invasive Pest Outreach grants. In-state tuition award and student insurance are included.

Responsibilities and Expectations

- Conduct literature reviews; design field and lab-based studies; collect and analyze data; and disseminate results through academic (peer-reviewed publications, conference presentations) and non-academic (fact sheets, newsletter articles, grower meetings, field days) outlets
- Maintain good graduate standing and make satisfactory progress toward completion of the MS degree
- Have a strong work ethic and sense of self-motivation; able to work independently and as part of a team; have an interest in basic and applied entomology

Required Qualifications

Bachelor's degree in biology, entomology, ecology, horticulture, or closely related discipline.

Application Process

To apply, please submit a 1-page cover letter describing research interests and career goals, a current CV, unofficial academic transcript and GRE test scores, and the name and full contact information for three references to Drs. Diane Alston (diane.alston@usu.edu) and Lori Spears (lori.spears@usu.edu). Preference will be given to applicants who submit their full application to Utah State University by **Thursday, December 15, 2016**.