

Two positions for Postdoctoral Fellows in Honey Bee Health at the University of Saskatchewan

The U of S Honey Bee Health Lab has funding for two Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (starting Fall of 2020) in the area of infectious diseases of honey bees and antimicrobial resistance. Specifically, we are looking for leaders in two projects: 1) Surveillance and development of enhanced risk assessment for American foulbrood in Saskatchewan and 2) Prevention of infectious disease (e.g. Nosemosis and European foulbrood) with probiotics and prebiotics. The U of S Honey Bee Lab has been recently established and developed into a vibrant research group consisting currently of researchers/scientists (2 postdoctoral fellows), graduate students (2 PhD and 3 MSc students), summer and visiting students (2-4 per summer), and technicians (2 part-time). Our current research focuses on environmental toxicopathology, gonadotoxicity, immunotoxicity and infectious diseases of honey bees (e.g. AFB, EFB, Nosemosis, Varroosis). The U of S Honey Bee Health Lab is led by veterinary pathologists and it is located in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) which is well-known for its strong comparative basic and translational research capacity. The WCVM has also strong research collaborations with the College of Agriculture and VIDO-InterVac, a world leader in developing vaccines and technologies against infectious disease. Opportunity to develop and lead synchrotron-based investigations at the Canadian Light Source in the above indicated areas are also available for interested and qualified candidates.

The U of S Honey Bee Health Lab is located in the center of Canadian prairies (AB, SK, MB) with over two thirds of Canadian honey bee colonies. The province of Saskatchewan is the ideal 'natural laboratory' for research focused on sustainable agriculture and pollinator health. Saskatchewan is home to some of the most intensively farmed cropland in Canada, as well as the most endangered ecosystem on the planet, the prairie grasslands, which supports almost 400 species of bees.

We would like to enhance a multidisciplinary aspect of our research team; accordingly, we are looking for two energetic and productive postdoctoral fellows who possess strong research skills with honey bees, both in the field and in the laboratory. . Candidates with a Ph.D. degree (acquired after 2014) in honey bee diseases/biology, toxicology, molecular biology, bacteriology and/or entomology are encouraged to apply. Additional requirements include strong interpersonal skills, excellent written and oral communication skills, expertise in data analysis/interpretation, publication of results in the scientific literature, and a valid driver's license.

Duties: The successful candidates will become an integral part of our team; design and conduct experiments, analyze and interpret data, and publish research findings; assist in the coordination and daily operation of a research program and research apiaries, including the research activities of graduate (M.S. and Ph.D.) students and collaborators; be involved in various grant-related activities, and preparation of research reports and manuscripts for publication.

Conditions: The appointment will be a one-year term position with the option of renewal for a second or even third year, depending on performance and availability of funding. Salary commensurate with experience (\$37,500 – \$50,000 per year) with the possibility of yearly pay raises based on an annual performance review.

Close Date: Applications will be accepted until positions are successfully filled. Only candidates that are interviewed will be notified.

How to Apply: Qualified candidates are invited to e-mail to elemir.simko@usask.ca the following documents: 1) a cover letter outlining their research interests, most important research contributions, and long term career goals, 2) curriculum vitae with detailed list of experimental skills relevant to the position, 3) contact information for three referees, and 4) three relevant peer-reviewed publications

Principal Investigator:

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