Postdoctoral Research Associate Position

The fresh produce packaging group (led by Dr. Eva Almenar) at the School of Packaging, Michigan State University, is seeking a highly motivated Postdoctoral Research Associate for a new project in collaboration with the Horticulture (Dr. Randolph Beaudry) and Food Science and Human Nutrition (Dr. Janice Harte) departments.

Project:
We seek to make breakthrough progress in modified atmosphere packaging of fruit and vegetables through the development and validation of novel film structures that provide desired vapor and gas flux.

Primary activities and additional responsibilities:
The primary activities of the postdoctoral research associate will include online and library research for publications, identification or design of appropriate instrumentation, training and conducting descriptive analysis sensory panel for quality assessment, collection of quantitative data, analysis of data, conduction of statistical analysis, interpretation of results, and documentation of progress in written form. Additional responsibilities will include the dissemination of results via publications in peer-reviewed journals and via conference presentations, and the support of grant proposal development including, but not limited to, collection of quantitative data, funding opportunity identification and proposal writing.

Candidate profile:
We are seeking an outstanding candidate who wants to be responsible for innovation in research and make a difference through excellence in science.

Required applicant qualifications are as follows:
- PhD in Packaging, Food Science, Horticulture, or a related field.
- Strong motivation and interest toward research.
- Self-initiative.
- Decision-making skills.
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills and collaboration skills.
- Good oral and written communication skills in English.
- Strong publication record.
- Strong work ethic.

Desired applicant qualifications are as follows:
- Experience and/or knowledge in the modified atmosphere packaging field.
- Experience and/or knowledge in the postharvest field.
- Experience and/or knowledge in sensory evaluation.
- Experience and/or knowledge in produce physical-chemical and microbial evaluations.
- Experience in funding opportunity identification and proposal writing.
- Experience in mentoring graduate and undergraduate students.

Location:
Michigan State University School of Packaging, East Lansing, MI, US.

Salary:
We will be providing the postdoctoral research associate with $35,000 gross plus benefits on annual basis. Benefits will include health insurance.

Application deadline:
Interested applicants should send a letter of motivation, CV with list of publications, and three letters of recommendation to Dr. Eva Almenar (ealmenar@msu.edu) with “Application for postdoctoral research associate position” in the subject line before May 15th. Hiring will proceed on a rolling basis, so early application is encouraged.