

Applied Nematologist Position
MSU AgBioResearch, MSU Extension and
Selected Michigan Agricultural Industry Organizations

Title: Applied Nematologist (academic specialist-outreach, annual appointment, fixed term). This position is 50% Extension and 50% Research in the area of applied nematology. This is a fixed term position renewable annually based upon performance and availability of funding. The position will be based in the Department of Entomology at Michigan State University and will report to the Department Chairperson. In addition, the position will work closely with an advisory committee comprised of plant industry representatives who provide funding in support of research and extension efforts.

Background: Michigan State University is the Pioneer Land Grant University and is a national leader in agricultural research and extension programming. Michigan has one of the most diverse agricultural industries in the US ranging from field, vegetable, fruit and ornamental crops. Many of these crops face significant nematode management challenges. An energetic individual is needed to develop an applied nematology research and outreach program in support of Michigan's plant industries. The incumbent will interact with university faculty and staff, growers, and members of industry to develop and deliver cutting edge solutions to the diverse nematological problems faced by Michigan plant industries.

Responsibilities: The successful candidate will conduct applied research and transfer the resulting information on critical nematode issues. This includes developing new nematode management tactics (*e.g.*, control, sampling), testing existing nematode management tactics, and developing integrated nematode management programs that will assist Michigan plant industries in preserving profitability and environmental quality. Funding for these activities is expected to come from a combination of internal and external competitive granting opportunities. The successful candidate is expected to combine innovative research and information transfer methods to client groups, and to publish in trade and refereed journals. Nematode-related information (biology, ecology, management, control) generated by this research will be disseminated to producers and industry representatives through newsletters, websites, social media, articles, and bulletins. An integrated approach to research and extension is expected, including working with multidisciplinary teams of research scientists, extension specialists, extension educators, and stakeholders. Active participation in MSU Extension teams is essential and the nematologist will be expected to contribute to planning and delivery of extension events (*e.g.*, meetings, field days, AgBioResearch events, Extension tours, industry tours). The nematologist will also work with growers to conduct on-farm demonstrations of existing and new nematode management technologies. Together with Entomology, Horticulture, and Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences faculty, the candidate will participate in areas of emphasis such as integrated pest management.

Qualifications:

Required: M.S. degree or higher in nematology, plant pathology, entomology or related fields and a minimum of 3 years demonstrated research experience in applied nematology. Candidates should possess excellent communication skills, be familiar with delivery of research-based information using multiple approaches, and demonstrate an ability to work effectively with other researchers, extension educators, and clientele groups.

Preferred: PhD in nematology, plant pathology, entomology or related field with research experience in plant parasitic nematode management with an emphasis on integrated approaches. Demonstrated experience developing and delivering extension programs and working with growers and industry representatives. Documented success obtaining grant funding from diverse sources.

Application:

Review of applications will begin July 1, 2016 and will continue until a suitable candidate is selected. Applicants should submit a single PDF document that includes: 1) a cover letter explaining their interest and suitability for the position, 2) curriculum vitae, 3) statement of extension and research experience and future directions (2 pages), 4) name and contact information of three professional references. Applicants can apply for this position at <https://jobs.msu.edu>, posting #3341. Inquiries can be directed to Dr. Matthew Grieshop, Search Committee Chair, by email (grieshop@msu.edu).

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