

Washington State University
Department of Entomology
Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center
Notice of Vacancy

WSU Position# 211553

TITLE:

- Endowed Chair of Tree Fruit Entomology and Integrated Pest Management, Open Rank
- 12-month, permanent, full-time, tenured/tenure-track, open rank

LOCATION:

- Washington State University—Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center, Wenatchee, Washington

SALARY:

- Competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience

START:

- July 1, 2022; negotiable

THE OPPORTUNITY:

The Department of Entomology within the College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) at Washington State University seeks an entomologist to develop an innovative research, extension and teaching program focused on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) of arthropod pests of tree fruit. WSU and the Washington Tree Fruit Industry are partnering to recruit an Endowed Chair of Tree Fruit Entomology who will continue a strong tradition of excellence in tree fruit IPM. The incumbent will join an outstanding team of nationally and internationally recognized scientists and extension specialists at the WSU-Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center (TFREC) in Wenatchee, WA.

The overall excellence, productivity, and sustainability of the tree fruit industry in Washington state and beyond is enhanced by the close partnership of industry with WSU. Washington growers support WSU and its research programs, and this position is supported in part from a \$32M endowment to WSU from the tree fruit industry. The position offers an exciting opportunity to work with the progressive tree fruit industry of Washington State which contributes \$6 billion annually to the state economy and is the largest agricultural commodity group in the state. This position will contribute to the integration of interdisciplinary activities at the TFREC by working with entomologists, plant pathologists, horticulturalists, breeders, and extension faculty to focus on key production and environmental issues. The Endowed Chair will be supported with operation funding from the endowment.

Research and extension activities are supported by annual requests for funding in competitive grant programs from the Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission and the Washington and Oregon Pear Commission. These programs fund around \$3M annually aimed at the improvement of tree fruit production, pest and disease management, post-harvest handling, and technology/mechanization. This position will work closely with the industry in both applied and basic areas that help improve IPM and technology transfer, along with teaching and mentoring.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The successful applicant will be expected to develop an externally funded, nationally and internationally recognized research and extension program in Integrated Pest Management (IPM), focusing on problems faced by the Washington tree fruit industry. This program should emphasize the development of behaviorally based tactics for IPM, with a balance of basic and applied contributions to science that are published in high quality, peer-reviewed journals. In addition, the successful applicant will be expected to be an active participant in the transfer of research information to the tree fruit industry using traditional and modern methods and to participate in WSU's tree fruit extension team. The candidate will provide an annual report of their research and extension activities to the Endowment Advisory Committee.

The successful applicant will be expected to support and mentor a diverse group of Entomology graduate students and post-doctoral scientists and contribute to the graduate teaching program in the Department of Entomology in their area of expertise. Integral to the position's success will be collaborations with colleagues at WSU, USDA-ARS, and industry scientists to form disciplinary or interdisciplinary teams that address the needs of the tree fruit industry.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Required:

- Earned Ph.D. in entomology or a closely related discipline with expertise in IPM at the time of hire;
- Demonstrated record of accomplishments in research and extension commensurate with career level;
- Demonstrated program leadership and record of extramural funding commensurate with career level;
- Demonstrated teaching experience and commitment to graduate and undergraduate teaching, advising, and mentoring that support diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Preferred:

- Demonstrated ability to work with stakeholders to develop an on-farm problem-solving research and extension program that addresses key crop pests;
- Demonstrated ability to assess, plan and implement entomological research benefitting an agricultural industry in collaboration with an Extension team;
- Publication record in behaviorally based control methods as part of a larger IPM background;
- Excellent leadership and interpersonal communication skills;

- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with individuals and groups of diverse cultures, backgrounds, and ideologies.

THE TREE FRUIT RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER

WSU-TFREC is located in Wenatchee, WA, near the geographic center of the state, and within the heart of eastern Washington's tree fruit industry. It was established in 1937 by demand of tree fruit growers, and has expanded in faculty, staff, and capacity continually since that time. It is part of the statewide network of Research and Extension Centers located in the diverse cropping regions of Washington state. The Center is home to 11 interdisciplinary faculty, housing the programs in entomology, plant pathology, pomology, physiology, breeding, and post-harvest physiology. The faculty also include a regional extension educator and an information and technology transfer (ITT) position that supports the post-harvest program. The Center hosts the WSU Decision Aid System (DAS) (<https://decisionaid.systems/>), a state-of-the-art online source of weather-driven models and time-sensitive information for tree fruit management. An office of the Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources is also located on campus. TFREC is co-located with a USDA-ARS research lab focusing on post-harvest fruit handling and soil health. A second USDA facility is located about 100 miles to the south near Yakima, WA staffed by entomologists with responsibilities in tree fruit and potatoes, including many that are adjunct faculty in WSU's Department of Entomology. The Center's campus includes the Overley Laboratory Building, three other satellite laboratories, a post-harvest handling and packing facility, and greenhouse/headhouse space. The Center administers two research orchards (Columbia View and Sunrise Research Orchard), both within 20 miles of Wenatchee. Along with individual program laboratories, the Center has shared space housing a molecular lab, an analytical equipment lab, and a field sample prep lab. Four conference rooms host meetings of various sizes and serve as distance teaching labs for classes originating from both Wenatchee and the Pullman campus.

For more information, visit <http://tfrec.cahnrs.wsu.edu/>

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY

Faculty, staff, and students in Entomology at WSU are committed to improving the long-term sustainability of agricultural systems through research, teaching, and Extension. Our department offers M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Entomology, with about 30 graduate students currently enrolled. In addition, we host graduate students pursuing an M.S. in Agriculture.

Undergraduate students can select B.S. programs in Agricultural and Food Systems (with majors in agricultural education; agricultural technology and production management; agricultural and food business economics; organic agriculture systems; and agriculture and food security) and Integrated Plant Sciences (with majors in agricultural biotechnology; field crop management; fruit and vegetable management; landscape design; landscape, nursery, and greenhouse management; turfgrass management; and viticulture and enology).

For more information, visit <http://entomology.wsu.edu>.

THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, HUMAN, AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES:

CAHNRS is an expansive and diverse college that includes 16 academic units, four research and extension centers distributed across the state, 13 subject matter centers, and one tribal and 39 county extension offices. CAHNRS fosters disciplines that serve at the interface of scientific discovery and its application to the advancement of society and improvement of the human experience. Our mission is to provide global leadership in discovering, accessing, and disseminating knowledge that contributes to producing a safe, abundant food and fiber supply; promotes the wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities; enhances sustainability of agricultural and economic systems; and promotes stewardship of natural resources and ecological systems. CAHNRS personnel embrace the opportunity to fulfill WSU's land-grant mission by making groundbreaking research discoveries, by utilizing innovative approaches to teaching and learning, and by delivering relevant, progressive extension programs that enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Washington State, as well as for people around the globe.

For more information, visit <http://cahnrs.wsu.edu>.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY:

Founded in 1890, WSU is a comprehensive land-grant university with teaching, research, and extension missions, and one of two research universities in Washington State. WSU is organized into ten academic colleges, the Honors College, and the Graduate School. It has an enrollment of more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students on five campuses (Pullman, Spokane, Tri-Cities, Vancouver, and Everett) with approximately 20,000 students located on the main campus in Pullman, WA. WSU ranks among the top 60 public research universities and is a Carnegie I, Doctoral/Research Extensive University. WSU strongly values diversity among its faculty, staff, and students and seeks to ensure a welcoming community for all.

Further information about WSU can be found at: www.wsu.edu.

LIFE IN WENATCHEE

Wenatchee's population of 65,000 is located on the eastern edge of the Cascade Range at the confluence of the Columbia and Wenatchee Rivers amid cherry, apple, and pear orchards. The town boasts scenic views of the Cascade peaks, nearby foothills, and the two rivers. Its location in the rain shadow of the Cascades gives it a semi-arid climate and over 300 days of sunshine annually. Some of the favorite outdoor recreational opportunities are golfing, fishing, hiking, biking, and downhill and cross-country skiing in the mountains, and whitewater rafting and kayaking, fishing, swimming, and boating in the rivers. Mission Ridge, a local ski resort 12 miles from Wenatchee includes 2,000 acres of ski area with a 2,250-foot vertical drop. Along with the nearby towns of Chelan and Leavenworth, it is a favorite vacation destination for both in-state and out-of-state residents. It is served by the Pangborn airport with daily flights to Seattle. The "Apple Capital of the World" is just a few hours' drive from the city of Seattle and Greater Puget Sound. Along with abundant cultural events, further attractions include a thriving farmers market, an expanding Public Market and rapidly growing, restaurant, craft beer, cider, wine, and distilled spirits businesses. Wenatchee Valley Community College and local public and private schools provide high-quality educational opportunities and Wenatchee is the medical

hub for north central Washington.

To learn more about the Wenatchee community, visit www.wenatcheewa.gov.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Screening of application materials begins February 21, 2022, and the position will remain open until filled. To apply, visit www.hrs.wsu.edu/jobs/ applications must include the following materials: 1) a cover letter, 2) a current curriculum vitae, 3) teaching statement, 4) statement on contributions to equity and diversity (guidelines: <https://hrs.wsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Guidelines-for-Contributions-to-Equity-Diversity-and-Inclusion-Statements-1.pdf>), and 5) the names and contact information for three people willing to serve as references. The cover letter should address all of the required and preferred qualifications for the position and include your areas of expertise and research interests.

Please contact Dr. Elizabeth Beers, Search Committee Chair, at ebeers@wsu.edu, 509-679-1010 for questions about this position. All qualified individuals are encouraged to apply.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER.

WSU is committed to excellence through diversity, has faculty friendly policies including a partner accommodation program, and a NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant (see <http://www.excelinse.wsu.edu/>.)

WSU employs only US citizens and lawfully authorized non-US citizens. All new employees must show employment eligibility verification as required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Washington State University is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact Human Resource Services: 509-335-4521 (v), Washington State TDD Relay Service: Voice Callers: 1-800-833-6384, TDD Callers: 1-800-833-6388, 509-335-1259(f), or hrs@wsu.edu.