

Postdoctoral Scholar in Forest Entomology

The Forest Entomology Laboratory at Purdue University seeks a Postdoctoral Scholar to advance ongoing research focusing on the integrated pest management of Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD). This disease complex is caused by the association of a fungus (*Geosmithia morbida*) and the walnut twig beetle (*Pityophthorus juglandis*). TCD is responsible for the widespread death of black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) in the western United States, and was recently discovered in the East, where it threatens the health of this important timber species throughout its native range. This is a full-time, two-year appointment based in West Lafayette, IN.

The specific objectives of this study are to evaluate the efficacy of trap trees, semiochemicals and the conservative use of insecticides to reduce WTB populations, while protecting high-value crop trees and minimizing the chemical footprint of walnut plantations.

Responsibilities:

- Work with Principal Investigators to establish field evaluations and sampling regimes.
- Lead field and associated laboratory efforts related to the research objectives. Some overnight travel will be required.
- Develop and present (written and oral) products suitable for scientific audiences explaining the purpose and results of project.
- Create scientific manuscripts based on research that are suitable for publication.
- Participate in scientific meetings and engage with colleagues and collaborators pursuing related research questions.
- Provide guidance and assistance to technicians, students, and others carrying out related work.

Preferred Qualifications:

- A Ph.D. in Entomology, Forest Protection, Ecology or related fields (Ph.D. required).
- Experience designing, organizing, and managing research projects involving insects, trees, or fungi.
- Expertise and experience in chemical ecology and management of insects in forest systems.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work with an interdisciplinary team.

Preferred start date is **Summer 2018**. The salary is set at \$48,500 per year plus benefits. Interested applicants should submit a single pdf including a cover letter, CV, and names and contact information for three references to mginzel@purdue.edu. Please use the subject header "TCD Post-Doctoral Fellowship". The cover letter should include (1) a summary of the applicant's research and analysis experience (2) the applicant's earliest possible start date.