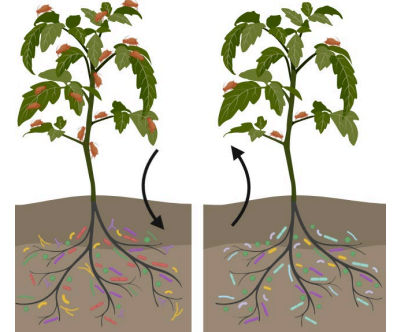


Postdoctoral Position: Applied Research in Plant-Insect-Microbe Interactions

The [Plant-Insect Microbiomes](#) and [Insect Ecology](#) Labs at Purdue University are seeking a Postdoctoral Research Scholar to advance ongoing research focused on developing beneficial soil microbiomes that protect crops from insect damage. A USDA funded position is available investigating how soil microbiomes can be naturally engineered to increase resistance to insect pests and what factors (e.g. soil type, crop species, native microbial communities) influence plant-insect-microbe interactions.



This is a full-time, 1-year appointment based in West Lafayette, IN with the possibility of reappointment based on available funding and satisfactory performance. The position is available immediately (start date Oct-Nov 2020) and the salary is \$48,000/ year including benefits. Information regarding Purdue University employee benefits can be found at: <http://www.purdue.edu/hr/Benefits/>

Primary Responsibilities: Conduct greenhouse and field studies examining the effects of pest-suppressive soil microbiomes on tomato and related crops, including analysis of plant defensive traits (e.g. gene expression, enzyme assays), evaluation of insect performance, and microbial community profiling using standard sequencing and culturing approaches. The postdoctoral researcher is also expected to contribute to mentoring graduate and undergraduate students, must exhibit strong communication and organizational skills and be able to work independently.



Qualifications: Ph.D. in Entomology, Ecology, Biology or related field and basic molecular biology skills (e.g. DNA/RNA extraction methods, PCR/qPCR, etc.) are required. Expertise in insect ecology, plant-insect interactions, soil microbial ecology, and/or other aspects of crop microbiomes is desired. Experience with analysis of next-generation sequencing data and microbial culturing techniques are strongly preferred.

To apply: Please send a 1-2 page cover letter describing your research experience and interest in this position, CV, and names and contact information for three references to Dr. Laramy Enders (lenders@purdue.edu). Purdue University is an EOE/AA employer. All individuals, including minorities, women, individuals with disabilities, and veterans are encouraged to apply. Review of applications will begin on Sept 1st, 2020 and selected applications will be invited for an interview.