



WE'RE HIRING!

Huseth Lab, Department of Entomology
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP IN APPLIED INSECT ECOLOGY

POSITION OVERVIEW

A graduate assistantship is available for a highly motivated student to study the ecology of seedcorn maggot (*Delia platura* Meigen) phenology and cultural control practices. Funding is currently available to quantify population dynamics of seedcorn maggot on row crops and vegetables. Applicants with a Master's of Science degree with a strong background in field ecology will be preferred, but not required. Screening of applicants will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The goal of this project is to better understand SCM risk across a latitudinal gradient in western Michigan where crop losses have been recently reported. Specific objectives are twofold:

1. Establish the timing of initial and peak maggot flight relative to phenology models used by MSU Enviroweather.
2. Document how agronomic practices relate to seedcorn maggot seedling injury risk. Farmers are broadening soybean planting windows to maximize yield in some areas of the state. Early planting dates combined with short duration between cover crop termination and planting may correspond to greater seedling injury.

Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae and contact information for three references to Anders Huseth huseth@msu.edu.