

A postdoctoral research position in insect genomics is available immediately at the USDA-ARS Southern Plains Agricultural Research Center, Insect Control and Cotton Disease Research Unit in College Station, TX. The funded project focuses on comparative genomics and transcriptomics of field and stored product pest weevil species. The candidate will investigate genetic patterns within and among weevil genus/species occupying different habitats and diet preferences, including gene duplications and gene family expansion/contractions that highlight important biological features that can be exploited for pest control. This project will generate large amounts of genome and transcriptome information, allowing the candidate to be a creative and active participant in the direction of the project. The candidate will be involved in nucleic acid extraction, library construction, sequencing, and data analysis and management. Individuals with experience in bioinformatics, functional/comparative genomics, and/or molecular evolution are encouraged to apply.

Start date is flexible, but the position is available now. Potential candidates graduating in Dec. 2020 or May 2021 are encouraged to apply. Only candidates that received a Ph.D. within the last 4 years can be considered. The position is available for two years (contingent upon review/renewal after year 1). Salary is at the GS-11 level (~\$64,000/year). Standard federal employee benefits will be offered including health insurance and participation in the Thrift Savings Plan (equivalent to a 401K), with government matching of up to 5% of salary contributed to the plan.

This position is open only to U.S. citizens.

Submit application materials (1-page cover letter, CV, contact information for at least 3 references) to Dr. Lindsey Perkin, USDA-ARS ICCDRU; lindsey.perkin@usda.gov. Applications will be considered until the position is filled.