Postdoctoral Research Associate or Visiting Scholar – Michigan State University

A Postdoctoral Research Associate or Visiting Scholar position with strong emphasis on bioinformatics is available in the Chilvers lab to study the pea-Sclerotinia sclerotiorum host-pathogen interaction. Breeding for resistance is difficult as resistance is partial and controlled by multiple quantitative trait loci (QTL). Expression profiling via high throughput sequencing technologies of parental pea lines of recombinant inbred QTL mapping populations is currently being performed to identify genes/pathways responsible for partial resistance. The candidate will also have opportunity to develop a high throughput SNP genotyping platform to facilitate pea breeding and participate in multiple pathology based projects in a vibrant lab (www.fieldcroppathology.msu.edu). Michigan State University has a strong plant research community, with excellent facilities and support.

A PhD or strong skill set in Bioinformatics, Plant Genetics, Plant Pathology, Microbiology or related field is essential. The candidate will be expected to conduct RNAseq expression profiling to identify potential genes and pathways involved in resistance and pathogenicity. Applicants should have a strong interest in host-pathogen interactions. Bioinformatics experience is essential and experience with programming languages and analysis of RNAseq data is highly preferred. The position is currently funded for one year and may be extended subject to funding and mutual agreement.

Applicants should submit a cover letter (email body is fine) describing professional interests, curriculum vitae and names and contact details for 3 personal referees.

A manuscript describing initial experiments can be found at BMC Genomics 2012, 13:668

To apply or to obtain further information please contact:

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