

**Postdoctoral Research Associate
Illinois Natural History Survey
Prairie Research Institute
University of Illinois**

Description

The INHS Medical Entomology Laboratory is seeking a Postdoctoral Research Associate to study the foraging ecology of an invasive mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*). Topics of interests include: understanding how vector-feeding preferences vary under a diversity of natural host communities; elucidating the influence of physiological state and infection on feeding behavior; and disentangling the selective pressures behind host specialization. The work would entail a combination of field, mesocosm, and lab work, and support the creation and use of mathematical models to explore the evolutionary and epidemiological implications of environmental influences on mosquito behavior.

Major Duties & Responsibilities

The Postdoctoral Research Associate will develop, direct, and coordinate studies on the behavioral ecology of container-breeding mosquitoes. The applicant will have the opportunity to work in an interdisciplinary team of lab, field, and computational researchers focused on the topic of vector-borne disease ecology. The work may involve the supervision of students or hourly workers. The successful applicant will be expected to take the lead on disseminating the project outcomes through peer-reviewed journal publications and presentations at conferences.

Qualifications

Applicants should have a Ph.D. (within the last 5 years or by their start date) in a relevant field (e.g., ecology, entomology).

Experience

The ideal candidate will have 1) prior experience with studies on mosquito ecology, life history, and behavior; 2) previously performed blood-meal identification with PCR-based methods, behavioral assays in olfactometers or mesocosms, and / or studies on parasite/pathogen-infected mosquitoes; 3) a solid foundation in experimental design, statistical analysis, and an ability to finalize projects and publish peer-reviewed papers.

Salary and Appointment

The position is available for one year initially with possibility of extension, with a salary of \$47,500.

Application: For full consideration, applications should be received by November 25, 2017, but the position will remain open until filled. To be considered for the position, applicants should send a current academic curriculum vitae, the names and contact information of three professional references and a cover letter highlighting research interests, qualifications and career goals (2 page maximum) to cstone@illinois.edu. The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer. For informal inquiries, please contact Dr. Chris Stone at cstone@illinois.edu. For hiring questions, please contact Angela Young, Human Resources Associate, at younga@illinois.edu.

Illinois is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, status as a protected veteran, or status as a qualified individual with a disability. Illinois welcomes individuals with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and ideas who embrace and value diversity and inclusivity. (www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu).