Position: The Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Minnesota, along with University of Minnesota Extension, is searching for an outstanding candidate to fill a faculty position in the area of horticultural and landscape plant pathology. The position is a nine-month, 60% extension and 40% research, tenure-track appointment at the rank of assistant professor.

Responsibilities:

Extension: The successful candidate will develop and deliver an effective extension education program focused on diagnosis and management of health problems of horticultural and landscape plants, with an emphasis on urban environments. This may include vegetables, herbaceous and woody ornamental species, fruit, and/or turfgrass. The candidate will provide timely information on appropriate plant health management practices that are effective, environmentally sound, and economically feasible. Additionally, the incumbent will contribute to educational programs for master gardeners, urban forest health initiatives, and/or plant and nursery health initiatives. The incumbent also may provide expertise to College and Extension initiatives focused on small farms and organic, urban, and sustainable food production systems, and may work with diverse communities/populations. In addition, the incumbent may work collaboratively with the University of Minnesota Plant Diagnostic Clinic, with a goal of integrating Clinic activities into extension programs.

Research: The successful candidate will conduct research on horticultural and landscape plant health problems and will develop effective and innovative plant disease management strategies as well as appropriate diagnostic protocols as needed. The incumbent is expected to generate extramural research funding from appropriate sources, including regional and national programs, and horticultural/landscape industry stakeholders. The incumbent is expected to establish active and productive interdisciplinary research collaborations with colleagues within the University of Minnesota, the state's horticultural and/or landscape care community, and regional land-grant universities. This individual also will be expected to mentor and advise undergraduate students, graduate students, and post-doctoral researchers from diverse backgrounds.

Qualifications:

Required: Ph.D. in Plant Pathology or related discipline, with a broad background, interest, and experience in plant health problem diagnosis and disease management. Experience in pathogen identification using established and/or innovative techniques. Demonstrated excellence in written and verbal communication skills. Ability to travel to multiple locations for research and extension programs. Record of publication in relevant peer-reviewed journals.

Preferred: Experience with diseases of horticultural crops and/or landscape plants and their production. Demonstrated experience and commitment to extension teaching and working with diverse populations. Evidence of grant writing experience, and experience with electronic media and innovative methods of information dissemination.

Inquiry and Application Instructions:

Apply online at: http://employment.umn.edu, requisition #182251 or employment.umn.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=108406, and attach (1) a cover letter including general statement of interest in the position; (2) a statement of extension teaching interests and goals; (3) a statement of research interests and goals; (4) graduate transcripts; (5) detailed curriculum vitae with publication list, and (6) examples of three recent research or extension publications. Also arrange to have three letters of recommendation sent directly to the co-chair of the search committee. NOTE: In support of the college's strong commitment to and respect for diversity and cultural competence, finalists invited for interviews will be asked to provide a statement describing interest, experience with, and commitment to diversity and inclusiveness. The position will remain open until filled, but screening of applicants will begin February 8, 2013. Incomplete applications will not be considered. For more information contact:
Dr. Dean Malvick
Co-Chair, Horticultural and Landscape Crop Plant Pathologist Search Committee
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Additional information about the department can be found at: http://plpa.cfans.umn.edu/

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