

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
NEW POSITION: ASST. PROF. IN THE
DEPT OF PLANT, SOIL & MICROBIAL SCIENCES**

Title and Position: Assistant Professor (annual-year appointment, tenure track) in the Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences at Michigan State University. This position is 40% Research and 60% Extension in the area of potato and sugar beet pathology.

Background: Michigan State University is the Pioneer Land Grant University and is a national leader in agricultural research and extension programming. Michigan agriculture includes a wide diversity of cropping systems.

Responsibilities: The successful candidate is expected to provide leadership in research and extension activities associated with pathology of potato and sugar beet. The successful candidate will establish an externally funded research and extension program that advances our fundamental understanding of plant disease dynamics, monitors pathogen populations for fungicide resistance, and develops rapid plant disease diagnostics and progressive approaches to improve disease management for potato and sugar beet while preserving profitability and environmental quality. An integrative approach to both research and extension is expected, including working with multidisciplinary teams of research scientists, extension specialists, Extension educators, and stakeholders. Active participation in the MSU Extension field crops work team and other MSU Extension work teams relevant to this position is essential. The successful candidate is also expected to interact with producer and commodity groups for the development of research and extension activities and provide a leadership role in solving plant disease problems affecting potato and sugar beet. In collaboration with plant breeders, the candidate will develop and refine screening techniques for potato and sugar beet disease resistance using classic techniques and modern genetic and genomic methods. The successful candidate is expected to combine innovative research and information transfer to client groups, publish in refereed journals, and advise graduate students. Together with Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences faculty, the candidate will participate in areas of emphasis such as soil microbiology and integrated pest management.

Qualifications: PhD in Plant Pathology or a closely related field is required with demonstrated experience in applied and molecular research techniques and extension experience. Post-doctoral training is desirable but not required. Candidates should possess excellent communication skills, be familiar with delivery of research-based information using multiple approaches, and demonstrate an ability to work effectively with other researchers, extension educators, and clientele groups.

Applications: Due March 15, 2016, or until suitable candidate is identified. MSU is an affirmative action, equal-opportunity employer. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans, and persons with disabilities. Questions can be directed to Mary Hausbeck, Chair of the Search Committee (hausbec1@msu.edu). Applicants should electronically submit in a PDF file (1) A letter of application describing the background match with the above job description, (2) vision statement regarding goals in Extension and Research,

(3) curriculum vita, and (4) names and contact information for three references. Applicants can apply for this position via the MSU jobs website, (at <https://jobs.msu.edu>, posting #2668).