

Subject: Post-doc position - Fragmentation and ecological networks

The Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology at the University of Connecticut invites applications for a University Postdoctoral Fellow on a project investigating the impacts of fragmentation on ecological networks in temperate forest ecosystems in the northeastern United States. The project seeks to develop a mechanistic understanding of fragmentation-induced shifts in the structure of ecological networks involving herbivorous (caterpillars), their host-plants, parasitoids and predators (birds and ants). The successful applicant will design, establish and conduct field experiments and surveys to test hypotheses for how bottom-up and top-down regulation of herbivorous Lepidoptera are modified in small forest fragments and the consequences for ecological network structure. Responsibilities will include leading field teams, rearing Lepidopteran larvae in the lab and developing and implementing statistical analyses. The fellow will be responsible for disseminating the research through articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and presentations at academic conferences, and organizing public outreach events.

Minimum Qualifications: Ph.D. in biology or a closely related field, experience in designing and conducting field experiments and expertise in statistical analyses using R.

Preferred Qualifications: Publications in population, community and/or landscape ecology. Familiarity with plant, insect and/or bird identification and taxonomy. A strong background in ecological theory (e.g. ecological networks, meta-population and meta-community dynamics and island biogeography) would be advantageous.

Appointment Terms: This position is funded for two years dependent on satisfactory performance. Continuation of this position may be possible for an additional year if funding is available. The position can start as soon as 1 May 2016.

To Apply: Applications should be submitted via <http://hr.uconn.edu/jobs/> under "staff positions" using the Search # 2016454. Applications should include a letter of interest, a brief statement (1-2 pages) summarizing previous scientific work and experience, a curriculum vitae, and the names and addresses of three individuals able to evaluate the applicant's qualifications for the position. Review of applications will begin on March 25, 2016, and continue until the position is filled.

Inquiries may be addressed to Robert Bagchi at: robert.bagchi@uconn.edu.

Employment of the successful candidate is contingent upon the successful completion of a pre-employment criminal background check.

All employees are subject to adherence to the State Code of Ethics which may be found at <http://www.ct.gov/ethics/site/default.asp>.