

**Position Announcement:
Junior Specialist I / Staff Research Associate II / Post-doctoral researcher**

A position is available in the Comai laboratory. The Comai laboratory is a plant genomics laboratory at the University of California at Davis and affiliated with the department of Plant Biology. It is located in the Genome Center, and has an existing staff of about fifteen people (<https://comailab.org/>). The position is ideal for a candidate interested in either entry-level work in plant genetics and genomics (Junior specialist or SRAII), or a more advanced research-oriented work (post-doctoral researcher). Position classification and connected tasks will depend on the candidate's education and prior experience.

The Comai laboratory has received funding to develop tools for faster breeding of clonal species. We are seeking an individual to integrate into the team working on this project. The primary task of the successful candidate will be to perform and oversee the testing of plants for their response to the soil fungal pathogen *Verticillium dahliae*, agent of Verticillium wilt. This involves plant propagation and care, culture of the fungus, controlled plant infection, phenotyping plants, data collection and analysis. Depending on the candidate's experience and interests, other responsibilities could involve: i) molecular biology procedures such as DNA or RNA extractions, preparation of samples for Illumina sequencing for the project, ii) general laboratory maintenance or organization tasks such as ordering and stocking supplies and reagents, managing lab safety, as well as for the supervision of undergraduate students assisting in those tasks; iii) assisting in existing projects in various crops, using basic molecular biology tasks such as PCR, genotyping, DNA or RNA extractions, as well as possibly production and characterization of transgenic plants, and / or iv) (for post-doctoral researcher candidates) investigation into the mechanism of Verticillium resistance in mint.

Requirements are:

- A Bachelor's degree in biology, genetics or related-field, 3.0 minimum GPA or equivalent, excellent understanding of chemistry and genetics
- A strong interest in plant genetics / genomics / plant pathology
- Evidence of strong work ethics
- Excellent organizational abilities, tidiness
- Ability to work with minimum supervision once trained, to multitask, and to interact positively with coworkers
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Familiarity with Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and web applications

Desirable (but not required) qualifications include:

- Molecular or genetic laboratory research experience
- Experience dealing with fungal plant pathogens
- Experience using Unix and / or python programming

Salary will be commensurate with the candidate's experience. Benefits will be based on UC policy. Position will be available for one year with the possibility of extending.

Tentative start date: January 1, 2022

To apply: Please email your resume/CV, along with a cover letter describing your reason for interest in the job and your qualifications, as well as contact information for 3 references to Isabelle Henry at imhenry@ucdavis.edu