Assistant/Associate Professor of Turfgrass Health
Departments of Entomology & Plant Pathology
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
The Ohio State University

This position will be a 60% Extension / 30% Research / 10% Teaching full-time, 9-month appointment.

**Position Location.** Columbus, OH

**Position Description.**
The departments of Entomology and Plant Pathology at The Ohio State University invite applications for an Assistant or Associate Professor in Turfgrass Health. This is a joint appointment, with the home department determined by the successful candidate’s primary expertise. The faculty member will develop a strong, interdisciplinary, nationally recognized, integrated program around the impacts and control of pests and pathogens on turfgrass health. The successful candidate will work with the OSU Turf Team to develop a set of shared responsibilities that intersect around extension for the turfgrass industry and educators in the state, including diagnosis of pests and pathogens of turf, control of turfgrass pest and disease agents, and responding to emerging issues in turfgrass health. The ability to work collaboratively and interdisciplinarily with faculty and diverse group of stakeholders is required.

This position is expected to have an integrated focus on diagnostics, training of turfgrass professionals, and clinical research of products and practices for management of turf in Ohio. This position will work extensively with extension educators to develop innovative and dynamic approaches to mobilize turf health information from OSU throughout the state. This position is expected to be an integral part of the teaching, research, and extension team that supports the turf industry in the state. As such, the responsibilities of this position will take greater focus as the college-wide program takes shape. It is expected that this position will be a leader in the coordination and dissemination of information and be the recognized resource in the state for Turf Health. The faculty member will be expected to conduct research that benefits a broad array of turfgrass stakeholders, including homeowners, athletic and recreational facility managers, agri-chemical producers, turfgrass producers and others. This position will re-envision ENTMLGY 5608 Turfgrass Insect & Mite Pests - Identification, Biology and Management, and PLNTPTH 5130 Turf Diseases and Integrated Turf Health Management into a course on integrated turfgrass health management. This position will be expected to mentor graduate students in the home department and in the shared Master of Plant Health Management (MPHM) professional degree program.

The Departments of Entomology and Plant Pathology are committed to enhancing diversity and inclusion in our professions. Our aim is to recruit, support, and retain a scholar that will engage in activities to enhance the economic and social well-being of under-privileged or minoritized communities through environmental, outdoor, and/or nature-based education, outreach, and research. We are particularly interested in applications from individuals with diverse life experiences and whose scholarship demonstrates a commitment to working with diverse communities.

**Specific Expectations and Responsibilities.**

1. Teach at least one course per year, primarily an integrated course on turfgrass health management.
2. Demonstrate an ability to cultivate learning environments that are equitable and inclusive of students and stakeholders with diverse social identities and backgrounds, and commitment to enhancing diversity and inclusion within entomology, plant pathology, and related professions.

3. Develop an independent program in turfgrass health, including presenting research results at national and international meetings, securing extramural funding, and producing impactful publications and valuable extension material.

4. Advise graduate and undergraduate students, including Entomology, Plant Pathology, MPHM, Environmental Sciences Graduate Program and honors students.

5. Work collaboratively with university faculty and staff, and/or OSU extension, government agencies, non-government organizations, and/or community groups to advance the land grant mission of the college and university.

6. Serve the Departments of Entomology and Plant Pathology, CFAES, university, and professional communities through committee work and other appropriate responsibilities and activities.

**Required Qualifications.**

- Earned Ph.D. in entomology, plant pathology, biology or a related field. Postdoctoral research experience is desired. Degree requirements must be completed by the appointment start date.
- Demonstrated expertise conducting applied and/or basic research examining plant health
- Evidence of potential for excellence in extension, research and teaching.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills and a willingness and ability to work closely with diverse groups of academic (e.g., students, staff, faculty) and stakeholder audiences.
- Demonstrated interest in and/or experience with teaching, recruiting, mentoring, and advising diverse underserved students, including women, students of color, first generation, and non-traditional students.

**About the Departments.**

The Department of Entomology currently has 17 faculty working in diverse entomological fields including vector biology, pollinator management and conservation, crop pest management, molecular biology, insect behavior and other specialties. We offer an undergraduate major and minor, MS, and PhD in Entomology. The Department of Plant Pathology currently has 18 faculty working in a broad range of fields, including plant-microbe interactions, host plant resistance, food safety, anti-microbial resistance, epidemiology and integrated disease management. Both departments have vibrant M.S. and Ph.D. programs, and a strong presence on the Columbus and Wooster campuses of the university.

Additionally, faculty in both departments are encouraged to participate in the Sustainable Agriculture undergraduate major, the Master of Plant Health Management professional degree program, and the Environmental Sciences Graduate Program. This position will be located on the
Columbus Campus of The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH, serves as the main campus, and, as the biggest city in Ohio, offers excellent schools, affordable cost of living and convenient access to a multitude of amenities.

**Application Process.**
Complete applications should include each of the following: 1) cover letter describing interest in the position, 2) Curriculum vitae, 3) statement of teaching and extension philosophy and goals (2 page limit), 4) statement of research interests and goals (2 page limit), 5) statement of experience and/or ideas for working with and mentoring under-represented or under-served groups, including first-generation college students (2 page limit), and 6) the name, postal address, phone, fax and email contact information for three professional references. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Application materials should be uploaded via Workday at [https://hr.osu.edu/careers/](https://hr.osu.edu/careers/) using search code **R43765**. Initial consideration will be given to applications received by **May 31, 2022**. Review of applications will continue until the position has been filled. We welcome informal inquiries, which can be made by contacting Search Committee Chairs Dr. Andy Michel ([michel.70@osu.edu](mailto:michel.70@osu.edu)) or Dr. Larry Madden ([madden.1@osu.edu](mailto:madden.1@osu.edu)).

For further information and application instructions please see: [https://hr.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/applicant-faq.pdf](https://hr.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/applicant-faq.pdf)

*The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity employer.*

*All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law.*

*The Ohio State University is committed to establishing a culturally and intellectually diverse environment, encouraging all members of our learning community to reach their full potential. We are responsive to dual-career families and strongly promote work-life balance to support our community members through a suite of institutionalized policies.*

*We are an NSF Advance Institution and a member of the Ohio/Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia Higher Education Recruitment Consortium.*