

## **POSTDOCTORAL SCIENTIST: Habitat suitability and space use of *Bombus* spp.**

With anticipated approval, the Department of Entomology at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (New Haven Campus) is seeking applicants for a Postdoctoral Research Scientist position with an approximate start date of May 1, 2024, to conduct field and laboratory-based research on wild *Bombus* spp. The position is for 24 months, with a salary of \$55,592/yr. Benefits include competitive medical and dental insurance.

**Scope:** Native bumblebee (*Bombus* spp.) pollination enhances yields of fruit and seed crops; however, these pollination services are at risk with the decline of *Bombus* spp. in association with land conversion and loss of habitat. Currently, habitat restoration efforts focus on increasing foraging habitat that have a diversity of forbs that ensure blooms from May-October. While establishing small pollinator gardens is commendable, the impacts of these small gardens on habitat connectivity, insect communities, and efficacy of agricultural pollination are unknown. With a long-term goal of providing science-based recommendations to support bumblebee nesting, foraging, and overwintering needs, this project, funded by the CAES Louis A. Magnarelli Postdoctoral Program, will use molecular, VHF radio telemetry, and spatial modelling approaches to determine how landscape composition influences bumblebee space use for nesting, foraging, and overwintering.

**Required Qualifications:** Candidates must have a Ph.D. in entomology, ecology, natural resource management, biology, or a related discipline. Candidates must demonstrate communication (verbal and written) and organizational skills, research productivity, and willingness to master new skills. Applicants must have a valid US driver's license.

**Preferred Qualifications:** Preferred candidates will have publications in peer-reviewed journals and/or papers that are in review. Preferred candidates also have experience interacting with master gardeners, conservationists, and/or growers, to help ensure research efforts are responsive to stakeholders. Candidates with skills in molecular biology, VHF radio telemetry, and/or spatial data analysis and modelling (e.g., including ArcMap, Geoda, R) are desired.

**To apply:** Interested candidates must submit by email a single PDF document that includes: (1) a cover letter addressing the qualifications above, (2) a CV or resume, and (3) the names and contact information for three references (e-mail and phone numbers) to: Dr. Kelsey E. Fisher ([Kelsey.Fisher@ct.gov](mailto:Kelsey.Fisher@ct.gov)). The review of applications will begin immediately and continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

**About Us:** Founded in 1875, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) is a state-supported institution dedicated to basic and applied research that supports plant, environmental, and human health in Connecticut. Over eighty full-time researchers work at the main campus in New Haven, a 75-acre research farm in nearby Hamden, and at two satellite farms and laboratory facilities. CAES fosters a highly collaborative and collegial research environment and maintains close ties to nearby academic institutions, including Yale University and the University of Connecticut.

Equal employment opportunity means employment of people without consideration of age, ancestry, color, criminal record (in state employment and licensing), gender identity or expression, genetic information, intellectual disability, learning disability, marital status, mental disability (past or present), national origin, physical disability (including blindness), race, religious creed, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, sex (pregnancy or sexual harassment), sexual orientation, veteran status, and workplace hazards to reproductive systems unless the provisions of sec. 46a-80(b) or 46a-81(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes are controlling or there are bona fide occupational qualifications excluding persons in one of the above protected classes. To file a complaint of discrimination, contact Dr. Jason White, Director, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT 06511, (203) 974-8440 (voice), or [Jason.White@ct.gov](mailto:Jason.White@ct.gov) (e-mail). CAES is an affirmative action/equal opportunity provider and employer. Persons with disabilities who require alternate means of communication of program information should contact the Chief of Services, Michael Last at (203) 974-8442 (voice), (203) 974-8502 (FAX), or [Michael.Last@ct.gov](mailto:Michael.Last@ct.gov) (e-mail).