



The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

Putting Science to Work for Society since 1875

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Monday, March 16, 2026

ANALYTICAL CHEMIST FOR ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD-ENVIRONMENT SYSTEMS

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is seeking a full-time Assistant Scientist II research position in the Analytical Chemistry Department. The scientist will establish and lead an original research program investigating the safety of food from environmental contamination. Advances in agriculture have increased the input of xenobiotics in the food-environment continuum which, combined with the presence of natural toxins such as mycotoxins and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), continue to threaten the safety of our food system. Addressing these impacts requires an in depth understanding of the presence, form, and mechanisms of action of these organic contaminants. Potential research topics include assessing the temporal and spatial dynamics of organic contaminants such as pesticides, mycotoxins and PAH accumulation in agricultural crops; untargeted analyses of contaminants in food, soil, sediment, drinking water, and sewage; and the transport and biotransformation of pollutants. The scale of research can range from nanoscale to whole systems, with a full range coverage preferred. The candidate is expected to form internal and external collaborations, seek extramural funding, and disseminate research findings through peer-reviewed studies.

Required Qualifications: The candidate must hold a Ph.D. in Analytical, Organic, Environmental, Agricultural or Food Chemistry by the end of May 2026; have experience in the use and data interpretation of conventional analytical chemistry instruments such as LC/MS-MS, GC/MS, HPLC, ICP-MS-HPLC, Ion Chromatograms, and/or high-resolution microscopes; and have performed scholarly research in analytical or environmental chemistry demonstrated through peer-reviewed publications and conference presentations. Candidates must be willing to participate in collaborative research and pursue external grant funding.

Preferred qualifications: The ideal candidate will have the ability to discuss current applications and implications of synthetic and natural organic compounds in agriculture and food systems. Preferred experience includes developing analytical methods, managing analytical data and protocols, and conducting basic instrument troubleshooting and optimization. Candidates should also demonstrate experience in performing collaborative research in a team, serving as lead or corresponding author on multiple scientific publications, mentoring trainees toward publishable data, and/or writing successful grant proposals.

The starting salary is \$90,256/yr, with competitive medical, dental, and pension benefits.

Interested candidates should submit electronically: 1) Curriculum Vitae; 2) a statement of research interests up to three pages long highlighting research accomplishments and research goals for the first five years of the position; 3) reprints of three relevant authored publications; 4) official university transcripts; and 5) arrange to have three letters of recommendation sent to: **Christian Dimkpa, Ph.D.**, Head and Chief Scientist, Department of Analytical Chemistry, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT 06511, tel. 203-974-8523, fax 203-974-8502, Christian.Dimkpa@ct.gov. Website: <https://portal.ct.gov/CAES>. Review of applicants will begin immediately and will continue until a suitable applicant is found. Matriculation dates are not required on any application materials and can be redacted.

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