

PhD Assistantship in Entomology

Seeking a highly motivated and qualified student to pursue the study of insect pests of wheat in the Pacific Northwest, with an emphasis on *responses of these insects to climatic variation and long-term climate change*. Research will include 1) monitoring pest fluctuations across the 6 agroclimatic zones of the region to establish baselines, 2) modeling pest distributions in response to projected downscaled climate scenarios, 3) contributing to outreach efforts. Focal organism can be identified by the candidate, but there are rich opportunities to work with the cereal leaf beetle and with *aphids and the viruses they transmit*. The student will also work collaboratively with team members studying weeds, other insect pests, plant diseases and soil ecology. The project is transdisciplinary and there will be opportunities to interact closely with students and scientists working on diverse aspects of this study including cropping systems modeling, sociology, economics, agronomy, plant physiology and plant breeding.

Thus the student can expect to develop the experience and skills necessary for successful collaboration as an entomologist, working in teams to address diverse, complex problems concerning agricultural sustainability and resilience to drivers of change. Our project interacts closely with two NSF-IGERT projects and other interdisciplinary activities at the University of Idaho and our partner institutions in this project, Washington State University and Oregon State University.

For more information contact Dr. Sanford Eigenbrode (sanforde@uidaho.edu) and Nilsa Bosque-Pérez (nbosque@uidaho.edu)

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Sanford D. Eigenbrode, Ph.D.

Director, Regional Approaches to Climate Change for Pacific Northwest Agriculture (REACCH)

Professor of Entomology

Dept. of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences

Agric. Sci. 242

University of Idaho

Moscow ID 83844-2339

Phone: (208) 885 2972

Fax: (208) 885 7760 D

Email: sanforde@uidaho.edu

Web: http://www.ag.uidaho.edu/pses/People/fac_pages/p_fac_eigenbrode.htm

http://www.ag.uidaho.edu/pses/Research/r_ent_chemec.htm