Technical Laboratory Assistant

Part Time: 5 to max. 15 hours a week at $10/hour
Start Date: 11th January – December 31st, 2021 (including summer if possible)

Objective of the role: Support maintenance of laboratory insect colonies and evaluation of insecticides and treated materials against insect pests.

Tasks to be performed:
- Maintain the insect colonies and make new ones:
  - Adapt the numbers to the experiments planned out with supervisor.
  - N.B. Once a new colony is started, do not disturb for about 8 weeks.
  - Check every couple of weeks how colonies are doing and top off with grain/flour to ensure they always have food.
  - Split in multiple jars if they are getting full.
- Receive samples and prepare testing areas (Petri dishes) or “mini bags”,
- Always keep a plastic container full of negative and positive control dishes prepared in advance,
- Support supervisor in writing of simple reports and typing up bioassay data,
- Refill the humidifier in the insectary on days working in the lab,
- Inform supervisor when materials are running low and need re-ordering e.g. flour approx. 2 bags left.

Contact Information:
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Location:
Plant Sciences Building, Lincoln, Nebraska

Evaluation Methods:
As provided by Vestergaard:
- SOP 006.01 VNVL: Rearing and culturing the larger grain borer, Prostephanus truncates and the maize weevil, Sitophilus zeamais; First Edition: Issue: 15 August 2015
- SOP 007.02 VNVL: Bioefficacy testing of ZeroFly Storage Bags using contact assay against stored product insects; Second Edition: This replaces all previous editions; Issue: 05 January 2016