

## Graduate position in biological control of weeds

A research assistantship for a PhD (preferred) or an MS student is available at the Department of Entomology at Michigan State University beginning in summer 2020. Research will focus on a recently approved biological control agent (*Hypena opulenta*) against invasive swallow-worts. Questions will include studying the factors promoting establishment of the agent, its synchronization with the climate in Michigan and impact in the field. The project will involve lab rearing of the agent, common garden studies, and experimental releases and monitoring in the field across Michigan. There is an opportunity to get involved with molecular work as well.

PhD candidates should possess an M.S. in entomology, ecology, evolution or related field and have valid driver's license. A strong research background as an undergraduate or as a technician can substitute for an M.S. degree. The ideal candidates have experience working with insects and/or weeds and interest in understanding ecological and evolutionary mechanisms underlying demography and genetics of populations. GRE is not required for application.

Applicants should send a CV, cover letter describing their experience and interest in the position, unofficial transcripts and contact information for three references to Dr. Marianna Szucs ([szucsmar@msu.edu](mailto:szucsmar@msu.edu)). Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. The position comes with a generous stipend, tuition waiver and health benefits. Phd applicants will have the opportunity to graduate with a dual degree in Entomology and EEBC (Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, and Behavior).