M.S. Assistantship in Forest Entomology at the University of Georgia

The Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Georgia, Athens invites applications from highly motivated and enthusiastic students for a M.S. Assistantship starting in Spring/Summer 2021. The student’s thesis project will focus on the chemical ecology of southern pine beetle, specifically on its interactions with the pine tree volatiles. Research results would assist in refining the existing prediction technologies for populations of an economically important bark beetle species and in timely development of effective pest management strategies. The student will be advised by Dr. Kamal Gandhi (Warnell School of Forestry, University of Georgia) with research jointly directed by Dr. Brian Sullivan (USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station). The ideal candidate would possess both field and laboratory experience related to ecology, some statistical background, and an independent spirit to develop, conduct, and publish research. A bachelor’s degree in a related field, especially in biology, ecology or entomology is a prerequisite for the position.

The Forest Entomology Laboratory (https://kjgandhi.wixsite.com/gandhi-lab) at the University of Georgia is a dynamic group that works on a broad range of ecological issues, forest insect species, and ecosystems across the country. The mission of the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station and Forest Health Protection (www.srs.fs.usda.gov/idip/; http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/) is to create the science and technology needed to protect, sustain, and enhance forest ecosystems and the benefits they provide to society. Further training in forest ecology and entomology will be provided. A competitive M.S. assistantship for two years along with full tuition waiver is available. Interested students should submit a statement of interest, current CV along with contact information for three references, GRE scores, and unofficial transcripts to Dr. Kamal Gandhi (kjgandhi@uga.edu; 706-542-4614).

The Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources (http://www.warnell.uga.edu/) is the oldest forestry school in the South, has >70 faculty working in diverse fields, and provides exemplary training of students in the fields of forestry, ecology, and conservation biology. The School is housed in a four-building complex on campus, and has >23,000 acres in the state for research, teaching, and service activities. The University of Georgia (http://www.uga.edu/) is a “land-grant and sea-grant university, and is also the state's oldest, most comprehensive and most diversified institution of higher education”. Its motto is: "to teach, to serve and to inquire into the nature of things”. The University of Georgia is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer.