

Opportunity Title: USDA-ARS Research Fellowship in Entomology

Opportunity Reference Code: USDA-ARS-SEA-2026-0051

Organization U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Reference Code USDA-ARS-SEA-2026-0051

How to Apply *To submit your application, scroll to the bottom of this opportunity and click **APPLY**.*

A complete application consists of:

- An application
- Transcript(s) – For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal institution systems may be submitted.
Click [here](#) for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- Two educational or professional recommendations

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

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Application Deadline 3/27/2026 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description *Applications are reviewed on a rolling-basis.

ARS Office/Lab and Location: A research opportunity is currently available with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), at the Subtropical Horticulture Research Station (SHRS) located in Miami, Florida.

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific in-house research agency with a mission to find solutions to agricultural problems that affect Americans every day from field to table. ARS will deliver cutting-edge, scientific tools and innovative solutions for American farmers, producers, industry, and communities to support the nourishment and well-being of all people; sustain our nation's agroecosystems and natural resources; and ensure the economic competitiveness and excellence of our agriculture. The vision of the agency is to provide global leadership in agricultural discoveries through scientific excellence.

Research Project: This appointment is supported by the USDA-ARS, SHRS, and Miami location, with the development of integrated pest management (IPM) for invasive insect pests, such as tephritid fruit flies, ambrosia beetles, the hibiscus bud weevil, thrips, mites, etc., that pose a threat to subtropical agriculture. The primary goal of the project is to develop comprehensive tools to improve the detection and suppression of target pests. The participant will join a multidisciplinary team of researchers to maintain insect colonies to perform specialized chemical ecology and

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toxicology bioassays, facilitating the development of innovative lures and baits for IPM strategies in a laboratory, field or greenhouse environment, improving targeted pest management solutions. The candidate will also engage with germplasm collections at the site.

Learning Objectives: The Participant will develop practical skills in maintaining insect colonies to support research projects. They will gain proficiency in routine laboratory techniques, learn how to operate specialized equipment for bioassays, and accurately collect, manage, and analyze experimental data. The candidate will learn how to maintain comprehensive research records and apply experimental design principles under the guidance of experienced scientists and technical staff. In addition, they will acquire advanced laboratory and field techniques relevant to entomology and crop protection, and strengthen problem-solving and critical thinking skills through hands-on research and multidisciplinary collaboration.

Mentor(s): The mentor for this opportunity is Nurhayat Tabanca (nurhayat.tabanca@usda.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research, please contact the mentor(s).

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: March 2026. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

Appointment Length: The appointment will initially be for one year, but may be renewed upon recommendation of ARS and is contingent on the availability of funds.

Level of Participation: The appointment is full time.

Participant Stipend: The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. **The anticipated stipend range is \$37,674 and \$50,000 annually.**

Citizenship Requirements: This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens only.

ORISE Information: This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and ARS. Participants do not become employees of USDA, ARS, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE.

Questions: Please visit our [Program Website](#). After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process, please email ORISE.ARS.Southeast@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should be currently pursuing or have received an associate's or bachelor's degree in the one of the relevant fields (e.g., Entomology, Biology, Zoology, Agricultural Sciences, and Environmental Science, or related fields). Degree must have been received within the past

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five years or anticipated to be received by 06/01/2026

Preferred skills:

- Knowledge of fruit flies and experience in important agricultural pests.
- Experience in insect colony maintenance and diet preparation.
- Experience conducting insect bioassays or field tests.
- Willingness to conduct laboratory and field experiments.
- Experience in data recording, paired with excellent, concise communication skills for collaborating with cross-functional teams.

Stipend \$37,674.00 – \$50,000.00 Yearly

Point of Contact [Sara Beth](#)

Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Citizenship: U.S. Citizen Only
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Degree: Associate's Degree or Bachelor's Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 6/1/2026 11:59:00 PM.• Discipline(s):<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Environmental and Marine Sciences (5 )◦ Life Health and Medical Sciences (9 )• Veteran Status: Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).