POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

**Position:** Assistant Professor - Extension Entomology with a focus on urban and structural insects. Location: Texas A&M Department of Entomology, College Station, Texas. Appointment is 100% Extension in a 12-mo., base-funded position.

**General Duties and Responsibilities:** Development of a relevant, extramurally-funded, extension and applied research program in urban and structural entomology is expected. The incumbent will be a state-wide resource for management practices for insect and other arthropod pests found in urban settings, including household, structural, and pests of ornamental plantings, turf and natural areas. The incumbent will be expected to develop strong collaborative relationships with the Endowed Chair in Urban and Structural Entomology, work effectively with the pest control industry in the State of Texas, with other faculty, extension specialists, and IPM agents and program specialists, to plan, conduct and evaluate applied research, demonstration and extension education programs that serve the needs of clientele. Clientele include, but are not limited to, Pest Management Professionals, Master Gardener/Naturalists, and other citizen groups. The incumbent will support educational program needs of Agents by developing presentations on entomological topics and through the production of educational materials for websites, newsletters/blogs, popular press, radio, TV, extension bulletins and fact sheets, and other information delivery systems. Develop and communicate best management practices that will minimize negative environmental and human health consequences with particular focus on insect and arthropod control in homes, businesses and other structures as well as the landscaped areas surrounding those structures. One key pest in the landscape which can also invade structures are invasive ants, in particular fire ants, tawny crazy ants, and Argentine ants along with other taxa commonly found in central and south Texas ecological zones. Work will be focused in AgriLife Extension Districts 9, 10, 11 and 12 (south, southwest, coastal bend and southeast Texas). All extension specialists are expected to serve as the state-wide disciplinary expert in their area of specialization with an expectation to develop interdisciplinary teams that solve insect related problems. Support of the mission of the Department of Entomology is expected including, but not limited to, securing extramural funding, scholarly publication, participation in graduate education as appropriate to the extension mission of their appointment, mentoring undergraduate interns and active participation in professional societies.

The incumbent will be expected to work closely with the Endowed Chair in Urban and Structural Entomology in developing educational programming that will serve the pest control industry. It is expected that this individual will be responsible for organizing, implementing and evaluating the annual Texas A&M Pest Control Conference and Workshop, a Termite School, and a Correspondence Course in urban and structural IPM. The Pest Control Conference and Workshop is held annually in January in College Station to an audience of >400 pest management professionals. In addition to this annual event, we expect the incumbent to be a participant as a speaker in multiple conferences held across the state by various industries to bring to these clientele groups the latest applied research results. The incumbent will be expected to collaborate with relevant extension specialists and the endowed chair in writing, updating and editing extension publications that deal with insects found in and around the home, schools, and in commercial buildings and landscapes. It is expected that this individual will be a key resource for information about pest control methods in and around structures.

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The incumbent is expected to work collaboratively with the Extension Urban Entomologist at Dallas, the Agricultural and Environmental Safety program faculty and staff, Program Specialists – IPM working with urban pests, appropriate County Extension Agents and Urban County Extension Directors, industry colleagues, research & extension colleagues from other states, employees of state and federal regulatory agencies and others to develop and deliver effective programming which supports the urban entomology mission in south and central Texas. Educational efforts with these groups should emphasize optimizing the educational and regulatory (licensing) components of the program so that they best serve the needs of stakeholders.

**Administrative Relationships:** The individual selected will be a faculty member in the Texas A&M University Department of Entomology and an Extension Specialist in Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. The incumbent will be supervised by the Associate Department Head for Extension Entomology and the Department Head of Entomology. The individual shall exhibit collegiality to all faculty, staff, students, clientele groups, and local administrators. The candidate is expected to cooperate and collaborate with on-campus and off-campus faculty in entomology as well as with other disciplines, District Extension Administrators, Regional Program Leaders, Extension Agents-Ag/NR and IPM in planning, conducting and evaluating educational and applied research programs in entomology.

**Qualifications:** Ph.D. in entomology or closely related field is required. Quantifiable knowledge of and experience in the design, implementation and evaluation of IPM technologies within the context of urban, structural and landscape pests is essential. Candidates must have demonstrated ability to work closely with diverse audiences, to communicate effectively (both oral and written), to function effectively as a team member, and to plan, conduct and evaluate applied research and educational programming and to seek extramural funding to support the applied research and extension mission of the position. Experience in planning, execution, and delivery of extension education programs that incorporate a variety of most appropriate means of information delivery and demonstrated ability to secure extramural funding are desired skills.

**Closing Date:** May 1, 2014 (or until a suitable candidate is identified)

**Application Process:** Contact Peggy Lundstrom (p-lundstrom@tamu.edu) for application instructions. Visit http://entomology.tamu.edu for more information about the department. Contact Dr. Charles T. Allen at ctallen@ag.tamu.edu more information about the position. Texas A&M University is an equal opportunity employer.