



## THE POST

<b>College:</b>	<b>College of Life and Environmental Sciences</b>
<b>Post:</b>	<b>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</b>
<b>Reference No:</b>	<b>P67522</b>
<b>Grade:</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>HERA:</b>	<b>RFEL</b>
<b>Reporting To:</b>	<b>Professor Juliet L. Osborne</b>
<b>Responsible For:</b>	<b>Temporary Field Assistants, as required</b>

The above full-time post is available from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2022 in the College of Life and Environmental Sciences.

### Job Description

#### Main purpose of the job:

This project explores the potential impact of a new invasive species, the Asian hornet that has spread across Europe and is a voracious predator of bees. The post holder will undertake ecological field trials to investigate predation pressures exerted by Asian hornets at different locations, assess impact on honey bee and bumblebee colonies, use radio-telemetry to locate Asian hornet nests (typically in trees > 10 m), collect samples from individual hornets and nests for dietary analysis, and explore levels of disruption to pollinator behaviour at floral resources and to pollination services. Empirically derived parameters will be key inputs for our existing BEEHAVE models to explore how different pollinator groups differ in their vulnerability to attack. The results will be published in high impact journals and the research will enhance the development of protocols aimed at reducing rates of establishment; and will inform UK & European policy in regard to management of this emerging treat to pollinator communities.

The post will be based at the University of Exeter's Penryn Campus (Cornwall) within the Environment and Sustainability Institute (ESI). The ESI is funded with a £22.9 million investment from the European Regional Development Fund and £6.6 million from the South West of England Regional Development Agency. Fieldwork, will primarily be in France and the Channel Islands, for periods of 2-4 weeks at a time.

#### Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of study. The responsibilities may include all or some of the following:
  - Acting as principal investigator on research projects;
  - Developing research objectives, projects and proposals;
  - Conducting individual or collaborative research projects;
  - Identifying sources of funding and contributing to the process of securing funds;
  - Extending, transforming and applying knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and appropriate external activities;
  - Writing or contributing to publications or disseminating research findings using media appropriate to the discipline;
  - Making presentations at conferences or exhibiting work in other appropriate events;
  - Assessing, interpreting and evaluating outcomes of research;
  - Developing new concepts and ideas to extend intellectual understanding;
  - Resolving problems of meeting research objectives and deadlines;

- Developing ideas for generating income and promoting research area;
  - Developing ideas for application of research outcomes;
  - Deciding on /following research programmes and methodologies, often in collaboration with colleagues and sometimes subject to the approval of the head of the research programme on fundamental issues.
2. To contribute to teaching and learning programmes in the School and to supervise postgraduate research students.
  3. To act as research team leader including:
    - Mentoring colleagues with less experience and advising on their professional development;
    - Coaching and supporting colleagues in developing their research techniques;
    - Supervising the work of others, for example in research teams or projects;
    - Developing productive working relationships with other members of staff;
    - Co-ordinating the work of colleagues to ensure equitable access to resources and facilities;
    - Dealing with standard problems and help colleagues to resolve their concerns about progress in research.
  4. To routinely communicate complex and conceptual ideas to those with limited knowledge as well as to peers using high level skills and a range of media and to present the results of scientific research to sponsors and at conferences.
  5. As determined by the nature of the project and at the direction of the PI, to plan, co-ordinate and implement research programme activity including:
    - Managing the use of research resources and ensuring that effective use is made of them;
    - Monitoring and reporting on the use of research budgets;
    - Helping to plan and implement commercial and consultancy activities;
    - Where appropriate, to plan and manage own consultancy assignments.

This job description summarises the main duties and accountabilities of the post and is not comprehensive: the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility. Please visit the Human Resources website to view the Research Fellow role profiles.

### **Person Specification**

<b>Competency</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
Attainments/Qualifications	PhD or equivalent qualification/experience in a related field of study.	Be a nationally recognised authority in the subject area.
Skills and Understanding	<p>Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to develop/follow research programmes and methodologies.</p> <p>Record of research output in high quality publications.</p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding of ecology of Apidae and/or Vespidae, including identification skills.</p> <p>French language skills (especially spoken).</p> <p>Ability to work at heights; ideally with climbing skills.</p> <p>Leading field experiments &amp; field teams in remote locations.</p> <p>Familiarity with use of electronic (e.g. radio-telemetry) and video equipment for ecological research.</p>
Prior Experience	Experience of managing research	Experience of postgraduate

	projects and research teams.	teaching and supervision.  Experience of acting as principal investigator on research projects.  Beekeeping (or similar) experience, including assessment of colonies in regard to their strength, stores & health.
Behavioural Characteristics	Excellent written and verbal communication skills.  Able to communicate complex and conceptual ideas to a range of groups (e.g. government, academic, industry, beekeepers, and public).  Evidence of the ability to collaborate actively within the Institution and externally to complete research projects and advance thinking.  Able to participate in and develop external networks.  Able to balance the pressures of research, administrative demands and competing deadlines.	Able to identify sources of funding, generate income, obtain consultancy projects, or build relationships for future activities.
Circumstances	Willingness to travel and work overseas (principally France & Channel Islands) for periods <1 month at a time.	Willingness to work occasional weekends (with time off in lieu).

### **Informal Enquiries**

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Dr Peter Kennedy, Research Fellow, telephone (01326 259469) or email [p.kennedy@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:p.kennedy@exeter.ac.uk).

### **Terms & Conditions**

Our Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed [here](#).

### **Further Information**

Please see our [website](#) for further information on working at the University of Exeter.