



## Postdoctoral position in Plant Evolutionary Ecology

Department of Plant and Microbial Biology  
North Carolina State University

The [Sheth plant evolutionary ecology lab](#) in the [Department of Plant and Microbial Biology](#) at [North Carolina State University](#) (Raleigh, NC) is currently seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral associate to participate in an NSF-funded study of eco-evolutionary responses to climate change across a species range. We combine field, greenhouse, and growth chamber experiments, demographic modeling, and quantitative genetics to examine constraints to adaptation to climate across species geographic ranges.

**Position summary:** The successful candidate will contribute to studies of eco-evolutionary responses to climate change in the scarlet monkeyflower, *Mimulus cardinalis*, a perennial herb that grows in riparian habitats in western North America. The postdoctoral scholar's primary responsibilities involve:

- coordinating research among multiple institutions by monitoring field and greenhouse experiments
- training and managing personnel, managing and analyzing data
- contributing to the dissemination of results through manuscripts and presentations
- participating in outreach activities

The position is based out of NCSU and requires travel to California and Oregon for several weeks each spring/summer and fall to establish and maintain field experiments. The postdoctoral scholar will also have opportunities to analyze existing datasets, develop additional research programs related to the overall objectives of the project, and gain experience mentoring undergraduate and graduate students. The postdoc will be co-mentored by Dr. [Chris Muir](#) at the University of Wisconsin, and will interact with the research teams of Drs. [Lluvia Flores-Renteria](#) at San Diego State University, [Jay Sexton](#) at UC Merced, and [Jeff Diez](#) at the University of Oregon.

**Qualifications:** Candidates must have a Ph.D. in Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, Botany, or a related discipline, and experience conducting field experiments with plants. Candidates are also expected to have a background in statistical methods, a strong work ethic, and excellent problem-solving, interpersonal, communication, and time management skills. A clear track record of publications, independent research experience, and a commitment to mentoring undergraduates is also required. Experience with analyses of quantitative genetic and/or demographic data in R is strongly desired. A valid driver's US license at the time of hire and experience driving on 4WD roads is required, and the candidate must be available to work away from home at field sites for two 6-week-long periods per year.

**Salary and appointment term:** \$60,000 per year with [benefits](#). At present, we anticipate this position to be initially for 1 year, with possible extension for an additional year. Start date is flexible, but ideally between January and May of 2024.



**Commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion:** The Sheth Lab is committed to fostering an inclusive environment where people from all backgrounds are respected and we especially welcome applicants from groups that have historically been underrepresented or excluded. In addition, Dr. Sheth and the postdoc will develop a mentoring and professional development plan to identify priorities and needs that would help the postdoc achieve their professional goals and desired work-life balance.

NC State promotes an integrated approach to problem-solving that transforms lives and provides leadership for social, economic, and technological development across North Carolina and around the world. NC State's land grant mission of teaching, research, and service is dedicated to the service of North Carolina and its people. Applicants are encouraged to review the institution's mission, vision, and strategic plan, and consider how their background, interest, and experience would enable them to support the university and contribute to work environments that are accepting and support belonging.

**Commitment to field safety:** We are committed to providing a safe field work experience for all members of the collaborative team. In the context of this position, safety measures we have in place include always having a second person along during all field work, pre-planned schedules and routes with collection sites in protected areas whenever possible, a clear plan for daily check-ins and a mode of continuous communication while in the field, a checklist to ensure that appropriate personal protective equipment are included on each trip, and an agreed upon emergency plan. We are happy to discuss and address any other safety-related concerns you have.

**About NC State and the Raleigh area:** NC State's Department of Plant and Microbial Biology offers a highly-rated research environment and is situated in a collaborative and scientifically stimulating atmosphere in the Research Triangle, with both UNC Chapel Hill and Duke University nearby. There is a vibrant and growing community of ecologists and evolutionary biologists spread across multiple departments on campus, including Applied Ecology, Biological Sciences, Entomology and Plant Pathology, Forestry and Environmental Resources, Soil and Crop Sciences, and Biochemistry, among others, many of whom participate in a weekly Evolutionary Genetics meeting. Raleigh is a lively yet affordable city with a high standard of living, and its surroundings offer numerous recreational activities.

**To apply:** Please submit the following materials to <https://jobs.ncsu.edu/postings/189629>

1. a cover letter describing your previous research experience and qualifications for this position, along with your current and future research interests (1-2 pages)
2. current CV
3. contact information for 3 references

**Application deadline:** Review of applications will begin on **October 15** and continue until the position is filled. Feel free to email Dr. Sheth if you have any questions about this position.