Title and Position: Assistant/Associate Professor (annual-year (12-month) appointment, tenure system) in the Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences at Michigan State University. This position is 60% Extension and 40% Research in the area of potato and sugarbeet pathology.

Background: Michigan State University is the Pioneer Land Grant University and is a national leader in agricultural research and extension programming. Michigan agriculture includes a wide diversity of cropping systems.

Responsibilities: The successful candidate is expected to provide leadership in extension and research activities associated with potato and sugarbeet pathology. The successful candidate will establish an externally funded extension and research program that advances our understanding in areas such as: biology of potato and sugarbeet pathogens, evolution of fungicide resistance, improvement in plant disease diagnostics, and the development of progressive approaches to enhance disease management for potato and sugarbeet while preserving profitability and environmental quality. The successful candidate is also expected to interact with producer and commodity groups for the development of research and extension activities and to provide a leadership role in solving plant disease problems affecting potato and sugarbeet. An integrative approach to both extension and research is expected, including working with multidisciplinary teams of research scientists, Extension specialists, Extension educators, and stakeholders. Active participation in the MSU Extension field crops and vegetable crops work teams and other MSU Extension work teams relevant to this position is essential. The successful candidate is expected to combine innovative research and information transfer to client groups, publish in refereed journals, and mentor graduate students.

Qualifications: PhD in Plant Pathology or a closely related field is required with demonstrated experience in applied research. Experience with potato and sugarbeet systems is not required. Extension experience is desirable but not required. Candidates should possess excellent communication skills, be familiar with delivery of research-based information using multiple approaches, and demonstrate an ability to work effectively with other researchers, Extension educators, and clientele groups.

Applications: Due May 15, 2017, or until suitable candidate is identified. Applicants should electronically submit in a SINGLE PDF file: (1) A letter of application describing the background match with the above job description, (2) vision statement regarding goals in Extension and Research, (3) curriculum vita, (4) a summary statement detailing experiences with diversity in Extension and/or Research endeavors, any experience mentoring diverse students, and an explanation of how they will contribute to our goals of inclusive excellence, and (5) names and contact information for three references. Applicants can apply for this position via the MSU jobs website, (at https://jobs.msu.edu, posting #5093). Questions can be directed to George Sundin, Chair of the Search Committee (sundin@msu.edu).

MSU is an affirmative action, equal-opportunity employer. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans, and persons with disabilities.

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) at Michigan State University is committed to achieving excellence by creating and sustaining an accessible and inclusive culture that values cultural and academic diversity. We are an equal opportunity / affirmative action employer. The CANR is particularly interested in candidates of all backgrounds who are committed to the principle that academic excellence is achieved through open access and proactive inclusion.