

A postdoctoral research associate position is available immediately for a CA Dept of Food and Agriculture-funded project in the lab of Chris Rock at Texas Tech University. A motivated person with excellent molecular biology skills is sought to investigate the role of microRNAs and trans-acting small interfering RNAs and their targets in Pierce's disease of grapevine (caused by a xylem-restricted plant pathogen, *Xylella fastidiosa*) using CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing technologies. Background on the project can be found in Trends Pl Sci 18: 601 (2013). The research will employ interdisciplinary approaches including analytical biochemistry, molecular biology, and genomics in collaboration with the phytopathology group of Leo De La Fuente at Auburn University (see Mol Pl Microbe Int 27: 1048 [2014]). The appointment is available immediately and is for one year, with renewal contingent upon continued funding availability.

Qualifications: A recent Ph.D. in molecular biology, plant pathology, biochemistry, genetics, or related field. The successful candidate should have a good publication record, strong communication skills, and demonstrated expertise in recombinant DNA, genetics, and/or biochemistry. A plant science background is not required. The person should be independent and motivated to advance basic scientific knowledge of plant-microbe interactions and translational applications to meet challenges to sustainable crop production.

Interested applicants should send CV, a cover letter describing research interests and career goals, and the contact information for three references by e-mail to chris.rock@ttu.edu.