The NPDN Leadership and members of USDA-APHIS-PPQ-Science & Technology-Beltsville Laboratory are pleased to announce the 2020 advanced diagnostic workshops. These workshops are a great collaborative effort that benefit all involved. Offering these workshops is a substantial commitment of time and funds for the Beltsville leadership and scientists. Past attendees have expressed how beneficial these trainings are for their individual growth and our leadership is very thankful our members have these network-wide professional development opportunities!

Thank you to all that responded to the survey requesting your input on topics needed for the 2020 workshops. Your input was used to plan the workshop topics that are being offered. **The 2020 workshops will be held March 02 through April 03, 2020 with ten (10) workshops tentatively planned.** We have a few new and re-structured offerings for 2020. The new offerings are Isothermal Amplification (offered twice) and Monilinia (offered once), and two repeats of the new in 2019 Seed Testing Workshop that focuses on

#### 2020 Beltsville workshops, topics by week:

- **Week 1 (first half):** Bioinformatics-Module SS, March 02–04, 3 days
- **Week 1 (second half):** Bioinformatics-Module HTS, March 05–06, 2 days
- **Week 2 (first half):** Seed testing-CGMMV, March 10–11, 2 days
- **Week 2 (second half):** Isothermal Amplification, March 12–13, 2 days
- **Week 3 (first half):** Monilinia, March 17–18, 2 days
- **Week 3 (second half):** Seed testing-CGMMV, March 19–20, 2 days
- **Week 4 (first half):** Phytophthora 101, March 23–25, 3 days
- **Week 4 (second half):** Isothermal Amplification, March 26–27, 2 days
- **Week 5 (first half):** Bioinformatics-Module SS, March 30–April 01, 3 days
- **Week 5 (second half):** Bioinformatics-Module HTS, April 02–03, 2 days

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**Contribute**

Recently write an article for a trade journal? Do you have a tip, announcement, job listing or network update you would like to include in the *NPDN News*? Email rachel.mccarthy@cornell.edu.
the ELISA testing for CGMMV (cucumber green mottle mosaic virus). Bioinformatics has been re-structured and split into two parts to allow our members to choose the subject matter they are interested in learning. The first module is not intended to be a prerequisite for attending the second module. The two modules were re-designed based on topics. Participants can choose to attend both or choose one based on the specific topic which are the Sanger Sequencing and High Throughput Sequencing. Each Bioinformatics Workshop will be offered twice. The long running Phytophthora 101 Workshop will also be offered because of the high requests received in the survey.

Workshop descriptions and the workshop schedule calendar will be posted to the Beltsville workshop webpage on the NPDN portal very soon. Once the hotel contract is signed that will be posted as well. We are using a new hotel in Bowie, MD. This new hotel was selected based on the feedback of past participants. Our criteria was to continue to be close to the Beltsville Lab and for those not having a vehicle, close to abundant restaurants, various types of stores and specifically a grocery store.

Please DO NOT make any travel arrangements until you receive confirmation that the workshop has received the minimum number of participates to be given. Participants will get an email providing travel arrangement information as soon as possible and most likely the early part of January 2020. Expenses for travel, lodging and meals will be covered by a supplemental grant for diagnostician training so you WILL NOT need to use your NPDN funds to participate. All expenses will be processed through Cornell University. There is no registration fee for attending a workshop(s) or for the meeting materials provided. These expenses are covered by our colleagues at the Beltsville Laboratory and through the grant.

If you are interested in participating in any of these workshops, please contact Barb Riker at br347@cornell.edu and copy Karen Snover-Clift at kls13@cornell.edu. Thank you!

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Holidays and Observances: 17: St. Patrick’s Day

www.wiki-calendar.com
Extension agent II, plant diagnostician, Cooperative Extension
University of Delaware

Job no: 494583
Location: Newark
Categories: Extension and Outreach, full time
Applications close: open until filled

The Extension agent II/plant diagnostician is the primary plant pathologist for the University of Delaware Plant Diagnostic Clinic. The diagnostician receives samples from all crop areas across the state of Delaware and the region, diagnoses problems, communicates results and recommendations to clientele, and uploads data for samples to a national database. The UD Plant Diagnostic Clinic is the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) lab for Delaware. The diagnostician cooperates with the Federal and State Plant Regulatory Officials for DE on detection and diagnosis of high consequence pests. The diagnostician interacts with county agents and specialists, grower groups, Master Gardeners, and collaborates with other CANR faculty and Extension personnel. The position is supervised by the director of Cooperative Extension with input from the chair of the department of Plant and Soil Sciences.

Major responsibilities:

- Operate the University of Delaware Plant Diagnostic Clinic. Identify pathogens and provide diagnosis for plant samples from crop, ornamental, landscape and forestry sources; communicate results, resources and/or management options to clientele or Extension personnel; maintain data for samples received via the NPDN lab management system. Accept samples from all crop areas in Delaware and cooperates with specialists for individual crop disciplines.

- Prepare and present outreach, educational, and training materials in Extension programs, Master Gardener training, Ornamentals Hotline newsletter articles, educational meetings, guest lectures in University classes, and individual training to graduate students and growers. Material includes PowerPoint presentations, fact sheets, brochures, posters and other formats.

- Collaborate with state, regional and national partners to detect and monitor plant pests. Partners include State of Delaware, the National Plant Diagnostic Network, USDA, ipmPIPE, and USDA/APHIS CAPS (Cooperative Agricultural Pest Surveys). Administer resources for Federal Cooperative Agreement awards, including planning, organization, supplies, equipment, personnel, and collaborations that support projects.

- Seek additional funding resources through cost recovery, grants, sponsors and donors to expand and enhance the function of the Plant Diagnostic Clinic. Oversee multiple budgets including CU/USDA NPDN.

- Maintain the Plant Diagnostic Clinic and Plant Disease portions of the CANR website.

- Collaborate with faculty and Extension personnel on applied research projects. May conduct applied research in ornamentals disease management.

- Maintain equipment and laboratories, current USDA APHIS permits, safety inspections, and chemical and biological inventories for the UD Plant Diagnostic Clinic.

- Supervise part-time employees of the UD Plant Diagnostic Clinic.

- Serve as a member of the Extension Agriculture program team and work collaboratively with statewide programming as part of the Extension Plan of Work. Serve on relevant CANR and Extension committees.

- Document and track program impact based on stated objectives, develop effective evaluation techniques, and enter this information into the internal tracking software.

To read the complete job description or to apply, visit: https://careers.udel.edu/cw/en-us/job/494583/extension-agent-ii-plant-diagnostician-cooperative-extension.
Upcoming events

February 9–11, 2020
SPDN Regional Meeting
Charleston, SC

March 2–6, 2020
WPDN Regional Meeting
Tucson, AZ

August 8–12, 2020
Plant Health 2020 (APS annual meeting)
Denver, CO

August 9–13, 2020
National Plant Board annual meeting
Lancaster, PA

November 15–18, 2020
Entomology 2020
Orlando, FL

The Sentinel Plant Network is hosting two workshops for public garden professionals this winter and spring with a third planned this summer in the northeast.

If you are interested to assist with either of these programs, contact Rachel McCarthy at rachel.mccarthy@cornell.edu.

Southwest member gardens
San Diego Botanic Garden
Encinitas, CA
January 29 & 30, 2020

Southeast member gardens
Donald E. Davis Arboretum
Auburn, AL
March 24 & 25, 2020

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