

Postdoctoral Fellow: Evolution of Cold Tolerance in New Zealand Alpine Stick Insects

We are seeking a post-doctoral researcher on a New Zealand Marsden Fund project “Evolution of Cold Tolerance in New Zealand Alpine Stick Insects”. This project is led by Thomas Buckley at Landcare Research, Auckland, New Zealand. Also involved in this project are Brent Sinclair (University of Western Ontario), and Melody Clark (British Antarctic Survey).

This project seeks to identify genes involved in cold tolerance in alpine stick insects and compare patterns of sequence evolution and expression of such candidate genes to other genomic markers. This project will involve Next-Generation DNA sequencing of stick insect transcriptomes, quantitative PCR, and DNA sequencing of candidate genes and other sequence markers. The successful applicant will have a PhD with proven skills and experience in PCR, DNA sequencing, qPCR and associated population genetic and phylogenetic analysis. The candidate will also have experience with the bioinformatic analysis of transcriptome or genomic scale data sets. There is also the option of participating in field work and physiological studies. The successful applicant will be expected to present results at local and international conferences and to lead publication of results. There will also be opportunities to interact with other researchers within Landcare Research and the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution.

This position will be based at Landcare Research, Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand and is fixed term for three years. Funding is available from early 2010. Interested candidates will find further information on the following websites:

<http://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/research/biosystematics/invertebrates/phasmatodea>
http://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/research/staff_page.asp?staff_num=1110
<http://www.allanwilsoncentre.ac.nz/>

For a job description and information on how to apply please visit our website, www.landcareresearch.co.nz/jobs. All applications must be received online.

For specific details, please contact Thomas Buckley (buckleyt@landcareresearch.co.nz). Applications will close on 1st February 2010.

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