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Graduate Student Assistantship (M. Sc)

Strawberry Potassium Nutrition & Fruit Quality

Supervisor: Dr. Hong Li, Assistant Professor, Department of Plant and Animal Sciences

Location: Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), Truro, Nova Scotia

Project: A graduate research assistantship of strawberry potassium nutrition and fruit quality relations is available through a 2-yr research project. High quality fruit generally carries high concentrations of potassium (K). Potassium plays important in translocation of soluble solids, phenols, sugar and minerals to the fruit. This study is to examine strawberry plant ability of K assimilation and K translocation from strawberry plant sources to sinks under the influence of different mineral K and nitrogen (N) treatments. This study will also quantify the interaction of K and N nutrition on strawberry fruit yield and fruit quality attributes (N/K ratios, titratable acids, total soluble solids, total phenols, etc). The studies will be conducted on well winter-protected, 1-year old strawberry plants in Colchester County in Nova Scotia.

Qualifications: Applicants must possess a B.Sc. Honors degree or equivalent degree in plant science, soil science, environmental science, and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in the last two years of undergraduate study. Knowledge of plant nutrition, chemistry of potassium and nitrogen, and data statistics would be a strong asset.

Start Date: Summer (May) or Fall (September), 2010

Stipend: \$16,500 per year for two years

To Apply: Submit application forms to NSAC Graduate Study and Research Office. For additional information please contact Dr. Hong Li, Edible Horticulture Research Program, hli@nsac.ca, 902-897-9762 (fax).

Graduate Program Information: For additional information on NSAC's M.Sc. program contact Marie Law at mlaw@nsac.ca or visit nsac.ca/research/graduatestudies.

**The Master of Science program with a specialization in agriculture is offered by
NSAC in conjunction with Dalhousie University**