



Expressions of interest for post-doctoral research to investigate diversity of the important B/CYDV cereal virus in Ireland

We are seeking expressions of interest from highly motivated early career researchers to co-apply for Marie Curie funding to complete research into the detection and diversity of B/CYDV in Ireland.

Barley/cereal yellow dwarf virus (B/CYDV) poses a serious threat to cereals worldwide. The virus is transmitted by aphids when the aphid vector feeds on plants. B/CYDV produces leaf yellowing and stunting, leading to yield losses that can translate to up to 2.5 tonnes per hectare. The virus has a large host range, infecting grass species in the family Poaceae, and is responsible for serious yield losses in barley, wheat and oats. Strains vary strongly in their symptom manifestation, vector transmission efficiency, host preferences and their serological and molecular properties. Understanding the incidence and diversity of viral strains in Ireland will aid in the development of novel Integrated Pest Management (IPM) tools. In parallel, enhancing the sensitivity and specificity of molecular-based B/CYDV detection in aphids and plants will provide additional scope for testing lab and in-field testing.

The Oak Park research centre has the capacity to complete investigations from molecular to large-scale field trials. Our state-of-the-art core facility is fully equipped, with the required molecular, pathology, agronomy labs as well as controlled environment growth facilities plus a high-performance compute cluster for data analysis. The funding scheme to be targeted is the Marie Curie postdoctoral fellowship programme. Further details can be found at the following address: <https://www.teagasc.ie/about/opportunities/post-doctoral-opportunities/marie-curie-fellows/>

The proposed research framework is flexible and the successful applicant will possess a PhD in entomology/molecular biology/virology and a strong publication record that clearly demonstrates an ability to disseminate research findings. Applicants must be willing to participate in cross-disciplinary research and have a track record of outputs (e.g. publications, conferences, workshops, social platforms etc...) commensurate with experience. To apply for selection please email a completed application (CV with research gate/google scholar link) to Dr. Louise Mc Namara at louise.mcnamara@teagasc.ie by 03/05/2021. Further information concerning our research programme is available at <https://www.teagasc.ie/contact/staff-directory/m/louise-mcnamara/>