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Graduate Student (M.Sc.) Assistantship M.Sc. Agriculture (Assessment of Shellfish Sediments as Soil Amendment)

Supervisor: Dr. Mehdi Sharifi, Environmental Sciences Department

Location: Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), Truro, Nova Scotia
Research to be performed in Kentville, NS.

Project: A large amount of shellfish waste is produced each year in Atlantic Canada for which there is no readily available recycling outlet. Recent laboratory analysis of shellfish sediment samples from Shellfish Industry suggests that shellfish sediments contain valuable amounts of crop essential nutrients, and organic matter. The objectives of this study are to assess the use of mussel sediments as source of nitrogen and sulfur in high value vegetable crops, and quantify the residual effect of sediments in the second growing season after application. The successful candidate will be part of the Innovative Nutrient Management Research Team at NSAC and will work with researchers from partner institutions including industry and government. This research program will also provide the successful candidate with an opportunity to develop advanced technical and analytical skills, and current field sampling techniques.

Requirements: The applicant must meet the criteria for admission to the M.Sc. program, which includes a B.Sc. (honours) degree or equivalent and a GPA of 3.0 in the last two years of study. The applicant must be eligible for an NSERC-Industrial Postgraduate Scholarship (IPS) (http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/students-etudiants/pg-cs/ips-besii_eng.asp).

Stipend: \$21,000 annually for a two-year period and guaranteed opportunity to participate at a national/international scientific conference.

Start Date: September 2011 or until filled

For Graduate Program information, or to apply, contact:

Marie Law, Program Assistant. Email: mlaw@nsac.ca Telephone: 902-893-6502, or visit the NSAC website at <http://www.nsac.ca/research/graduatestudies>. All application documentation should be sent directly to the Research & Graduate Studies Office at NSAC. Applicants must reference this specific research assistantship in their description of research interests to be considered for this position.

For information regarding the research project, contact:

Dr. M. Sharifi, Environmental Sciences Department, NSAC, P.O. Box 550, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5E3 Canada. Email: Mehdi.Sharifi@agr.gc.ca Tel: 902-679-4333, Fax: 902-679-6062.

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

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