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Uppsala University hereby invites applications for a

## Postgraduate PhD position in Animal Ecology - sexually antagonistic genetic variation

at the Department of Ecology and Genetics, Evolutionary Biology Centre (EBC) with a tentative starting date being May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, or as soon as possible after this date. The Evolutionary Biology Center hosts one of the world's largest aggregations of evolutionary biologists, and is a prime research environment for a wide range of fields in evolutionary biology (see "<http://www.ebc.uu.se/>" for more information). The working atmosphere is very international with English as our operational language. Our graduate school offers a creative and stimulating environment and is very rich in seminars, courses and possibilities to interact with other scholars and students (see "<http://www.ebc.uu.se/education/>") – graduate students recently ranked Uppsala University in first place among all institutions in Europe in the subject of biology (CHE European ranking). Uppsala University is the oldest university in Scandinavia and the city of Uppsala is a vibrant student town with beautiful surroundings conveniently situated 35 minutes by train from Stockholm.

**Brief research outline:** Although males and females share much of the same genome, selection can be distinct in the two sexes. Sexually antagonistic loci are those loci where selection acts in opposing directions in the two sexes. This PhD student position is aimed at improving our emerging understanding of the **architecture of sexually antagonistic genetic variation**. Insects (seed beetles and/or fruit flies) will serve as main model systems and the research will primarily employ quantitative genetic techniques. The research will establish a series of discrete genotypes and use crosses between these to analyse, describe and understand the architecture of sexually antagonistic genetic variation. Traits in focus are sex specific measures of life history traits (especially metabolism) and integrative traits such as life-time fitness.

This PhD position forms a part of a new project on genetic conflict, funded by the European Research Council and the Swedish Research Council. The entire project will employ some 6-8 PhD students and postdocs, apart from a full time TA and the PI, and will strongly encourage interactions and collaborations within the group.

**Salary and appointment:** The duration of the PhD training period is four full years. The successful candidate will receive a postgraduate fellowship the first year

(currently 15.500 SEK/month) and a postgraduate position year 2-4 (currently 23.300 – 26.400 SEK/month) including full social benefits.

**Eligibility:** The successful candidate should have a relevant MSc degree (or equivalent) in biology/ecology.

**Qualifications and merits:** We seek highly motivated candidates with a documented and strong interest in evolutionary biology and/or evolutionary genetics, preferably also with past experience of quantitative genetic analyses and an understanding of life history theory and sexual selection. Experience of laboratory work with insects is a merit as is previous experience of scientific writing and publishing. Because the holder of this position will collaborate and interact closely with other members of the group, we will put emphasis on both independence and ability to collaborate. The applicant is expected to have a good knowledge (spoken and written) of the English language.

**To apply:** Applications should include (1) personal information/background, (2) complete CV (3) a description of undergraduate training, (4) an authorized copy of the undergraduate degree and (5) the names and email addresses of three referees. Applications should be sent either by regular mail to: Göran Arnqvist, Animal Ecology, Dept. of Ecology and Genetics, Norbyv. 18D, University of Uppsala, SE-752 36 Uppsala, Sweden; or electronically as PDF files via email to: Goran.Arnqvist@ebc.uu.se. **Closing date for applications is March 20, 2012.**

**For further information** about the position, please contact the main supervisor and PI of the group: Professor Göran Arnqvist (phone +46 18 471 2645, e-mail Goran.Arnqvist@ebc.uu.se). Union representatives are Anders Grundström, Saco-rådet, phone. +46-18-4715380; Carin Söderhäll, TCO/ST, phone. +46-18-4711996, Stefan Djurström, Seko, phone. +46-18-4713315.