**Internship –** **Mass Rearing of Fruit Flies**

**Target Start of Internship**

Flexible

**Organizational Setting**

Department: Nuclear Sciences and Applications

Division: Joint FAO/IAEA Centre for Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture

Section: Insect Pest Control

Unit: Insect Pest Control Section Laboratory / Plan Pest Group in Seibersdorf

**Main Purpose**

The main purpose of the internship is to assist with the development of mass rearing and quality control protocols for the fruit fly *Drosophila suzukii.*

**Tasks / Key Results Expected**

* Assist with the development and testing of artificial fruit fly larval diets. A suitable artificial diet for the rearing of the *Drosophila suzukii* is available but final formulation for mass-rearing needs to be optimized to allow the production of high-quality insects as a primary requirement for the success of Sterile Insect Technique (SIT).
* Assist with the development of standardised quality control tests.
* Assist with the development and validation of Gamma and X ray sterilization protocols for Bactrocera dorsalis and Drosophila suzukii species (to be conducted during the last 4 months of the internship).

**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

* Biology.
* Familiar with Windows and Microsoft Office.
* Basic knowledge of statistics.

**Qualifications and Experience**

* University degree in Biology, Agronomy, Environmental Science or a related field.
* Past experience in a laboratory environment is an asset.
* Good written and spoken English essential; fluency in any other IAEA official language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish) an asset.

**Internships**

The IAEA accepts a limited number of interns each year. The internships are awarded to persons studying towards a university degree or who have recently received a degree (see Internship web pages for further details).

The purpose of the programme is:

* To provide interns with the opportunity to gain practical work experience in line with their studies or interests, and expose them to the work of the IAEA and the United National as a whole;
* To benefit the IAEA's programmes through the assistance of qualified students specialized in various professional fields.
* The duration of an internship is normally not less than three months and not more than one year.

**Applicant Eligibility**

* Candidates must be a minimum of 20 years of age and have completed at least three years of full-time studies at a university or equivalent institution towards the completion of a first degree.
* Candidates may apply up to one year after the completion of a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree.
* Candidates must not have previously participated in the IAEA's internship programme.
* Good written and spoken English essential; fluency in any other IAEA official language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish) an asset.
* Candidates must attach two signed letters of recommendation to their application.