



The Tick and Tick-borne Disease Programme focuses on the control of ticks and tick - related pathogens of agricultural importance by understanding the underlying mechanisms that enable these tick vectors to adapt and feed on their host. Moreover, we aim to develop tools that will enable robust cost-effective surveillance to screen for resistant parasite populations in the field for timely intervention and rational selection of chemical control. In this regard, close collaboration with academic, commercial and governmental agencies is fostered to develop capacity and resources that will fast track these tools to the producer to combat ticks and their associated diseases in the field.

The Tick and Tick-borne Disease Programme is offering a Postdoctoral fellowship for a South African citizen in the following research focus area:

Research Focus: Evaluation of the immunological profile elicited by various tick vaccine formulations in a murine & cattle infection/infestation model.

Required Qualification(s):

PhD in Bioinformatics, Biochemistry, Genetics or related fields. A good background in immunology is advantageous.

Preferred experience/ proficiencies:

Big data analysis for next-generation sequencing, de novo assembly, transcriptomics, gene polymorphisms, gene expression profiling.

Good background in Statistical analysis

A proven publication record.

Good communication skills and a willingness to mentor postgraduate students and contribute to an active vaccine development program in animal health.

This positions is available immediately (April 2021) for 12 months (renewed annually based on satisfactory progress), and will remain open until suitable candidates are found.

The first closing date for applications: **1 April 2021**.

Please apply by forwarding proof of South African citizenship, a complete CV with contact details of three referees (including phone numbers and email addresses) to Prof. Christine Maritz-Olivier (christine.maritz@up.ac.za). Applicants should clearly describe the candidate's expertise and verifiable publication record relevant to this position. Please note that unsuccessful applicants will not be contacted.

For additional information please contact:

Prof. Christine Maritz-Olivier at christine.maritz@up.ac.za or Tel: 012 420 3945.

