



Job Advertisement Agroscope

Positions

2 PhD positions in the European Horizon 2020 project "CROPDIVA", **C**limate **R**esilient **O**rphan **c**roPs for increased **D**IVersity in **A**griculture

Introduction

Agrobiodiversity is a crucial prerequisite for ecologically and economically sustainable agricultural systems. CROPDIVA's aim is to restore agrobiodiversity on different levels and along distinct geographic and socio-economic areas. The results gathered in CROPDIVA will provide innovative solutions to enable biodiversity management, including diversified use of genetic resources, crop production systems, new food/non-food products and market opportunities, while satisfying the demands of producers and consumers. The research work at Agroscope focuses on the key crop cereals oats (PhD 1) and hull-less barley (PhD 2). As a PhD student, you will investigate the performance 1) of breeding lines of these cereals and 2) of mixed cropping systems using oats and hull-less barley together with different legumes. You will identify the best cereal lines and most suitable mixed cropping systems by determining disease and lodging resistance, weed suppression, tolerance to abiotic stress factors, yield and relevant metabolites in harvested crops. This work will also help determine ecosystem services of diversified agricultural fields. The enrolment will be at the ETH Zurich.

Tasks

- Planning, conducting and evaluating field experiments on-site and on-farm
- Assessment of health promoting and undesirable substances in harvested goods
- Active exchange with consortium partners and stakeholders
- Organisation of national workshops for growers, food industry and consumers
- Dissemination of research findings at national and international conferences
- Publication of results in scientific and practice-oriented journals

Requirements

- MSc in agronomy, biology or ecology and a strong interest in applied agricultural and ecological research
- Enjoyment of work in complex field experiments
- Experience in design of lab and field experiments with a high proficiency in statistical data analysis
- Achievement-oriented, open-minded personality with the ability to work well in a team
- Good communication and writing skills in English and at least basic knowledge of German

Information about Agroscope

Agroscope is the Swiss federal centre of excellence for research in the agriculture and food sector. Its researchers carry out their work at a number of sites in Switzerland. Headquartered in Bern-Liebefeld, Agroscope is attached to the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER. The research group "Ecological Plant Protection of Arable Crops", situated near Zurich, develops sustainable strategies to control pathogens and pests while ensuring economic viability of the production system. We offer an attractive project and work environment in a multidisciplinary research team as well as thorough initial training. Agroscope has excellent research facilities with well-equipped laboratories and agricultural fields.

Place of work

8046 Zürich-Affoltern, Switzerland

Salary

According to standards of the Swiss National Science Foundation

Level of employment

100%

Contact

If this challenge appeals to you and you meet the requirements, we look forward to your online application to human.resources@agroscope.admin.ch (REF. 45214), including a motivation letter, CV, copy of certificates (BSc and MSc) and email addresses of 2 reference persons in a single PDF file. Additional information can be obtained from Dr Susanne Vogelgsang, head of the research group «Ecological Plant Protection of Arable Crops», susanne.vogelgsang@agroscope.admin.ch, Tel. +41 58 468 72 29 (do not send applications to this email address). Application deadline: May 7, 2021. Start: September 1, 2021. Duration: 4 years

