



Job advertisement Agroscope

Title

PhD Project : oilseed rape production with companion plants

Introduction

The project: "Identification of Constraints and Assets of frost-sensitive intercrop with Rapeseed in Organic and conventional production systems (ICARO)"

Oilseed rape (OSR) is the main oilseed in Switzerland. Its production uses a large amount of pesticides that should be reduced to follow new directives to improve sustainability. It also requires a high nitrogen fertilization to reach its full potential. OSR production with companion plants is spreading across Europe, but due to mixed results, its surface is currently limited to about 5 %.

Thanks to better understanding of farmer's needs and most common issues, and also a better knowledge of mechanisms of the association, especially at the root level, would allow this technique to be widely adopted in Switzerland, resulting in a significant reduction of pesticide used in OSR production.

Tasks

You will :

- Carry out field and glasshouse work on crop associations, together with our field work team
- Work on the development of a decision support tool to help farmers choosing suitable species for crop association Conduct statistical analyses
- Propose and test solutions to improve crop management in OSR with companion plants
- Participate to the ICARO project through presentation to partners from OSR value chain and knowledge transfer to farmers
- Publish your research in peer-reviewed journals and present it at scientific conferences

Requirements

We are seeking a dynamic and self-motivated candidate with the following academic qualifications and skills :

- Master degree in agronomy, environment science, biology or a related field
- Interest for applied research and field work
- Experience in dealing with standard PC programs
- Communicative and flexible personality with the ability to work independently and accurately
- Achievement-oriented, open-minded personality with good capacity for teamwork
- Good communication and writing skills in English and French

Information about Agroscope

Agroscope is an innovative research institute for agriculture and nutrition run according to the principles of New Public Management. Agroscope is part of the federal administration and is attached to the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER. It has research stations at a number of sites around Switzerland but its head office is in Bern (Liebefeld).

The variety and crop management group is based in Nyon, in the Lemman Lake area. The work will be carried out in close collaboration with INRA Agronomy group and ESA Angers LEVA group.

We offer a stimulating work environment in a multidisciplinary research team as well as a close support throughout the project. Agroscope has excellent research facilities with well-equipped laboratories, greenhouses, climate chambers and sites for field experiments and field studies. You will profit from flexible working time and good employee benefits.



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| Place of Work | 1260 Nyon (Changins) VD |
| Salary Category | According to the guidelines of SNSF |
| Employment Level | 100% |

Application

If this challenge appeals to you and you meet the required profile, we look forward to receiving your e-mail application to gaetan.berset@agroscope.admin.ch.

Applications consist of a single PDF containing an application letter, CV, copy of certificates/diplomas (MSc & BSc) and contact information as well as e-mail addresses of 2 references.

This position is open until filled.

For further information, please feel free to contact Alice Baux, phone +41 (0)58 460 47 22, alice.baux@agroscope.admin.ch (please do not send applications to this e-mail).

Start date: 1st of July 2018, or as agreed.

Duration: 3 years.