



Job advertisement Agroscope

Title

Research Associate – Control of plant diseases in ecological farming systems

Introduction

Fungal plant diseases in arable crops lead to severe yield and quality losses. In order to reduce the application of synthetic fungicides and the emission of harmful substances into the environment, we investigate strategies for the sustainable control of fungal diseases in organic and integrated cereal and potato cropping systems.

Tasks

- Developing methods and strategies to control seed-borne cereal diseases, to replace copper in organic potato production and for optimisation of our forecasting systems
- Planning and coordinating laboratory and field experiments designed to develop efficient, practice-oriented bio-compatible products and cropping measures for reducing plant diseases (Direct control measures include physical methods and the application of botanicals or antagonists.)
- Participating in international project teams, authoring of publications in national and international journals
- Acquisition of third-party funding and collaboration in phytopathology related expert groups

Requirements

- PhD in agronomy, biology or environmental sciences as well as proficiency in phytopathology, epidemiology and molecular biology
- Interest in applied research for agriculture practitioners in a combination of the above mentioned disciplines
- Experience in the acquisition of third-party funds and in supervising MSc or PhD students
- Excellent team spirit, good communication skills and performance-oriented personality
- Excellent spoken and written English and good knowledge of German. Basic knowledge of French is desirable.

Information about Agroscope

Agroscope is an innovative research institute for agriculture and nutrition. Agroscope is part of the federal administration and attached to the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER. It has research stations at a number of sites throughout Switzerland, and closely interacts with numerous other research institutes.

The research group „Ecological Plant Protection in Arable Crops“ develops methods for the ecological control of plant diseases and insect pests in arable crops and grassland. We offer a diversified research programme in a dynamic working environment and a thorough training. An excellent research infrastructure, an experimental farm and high quality laboratory equipment are available. Flexible working hours and competitive social benefits.

Starting date: June 1, 2018 or upon agreement. The contract duration is initially for three years.

Place of Work

CH-8046 Zurich-Affoltern

Salary Category

24

Employment Level

80-100%

Application Address

If you are interested in this challenge, we look forward to receiving your online application (documents in a single PDF file) until April 12, 2018 to human.resources@agroscope.admin.ch, Ref. Code 33478. For further information, please feel free to contact Dr Susanne Vogelgsang, Head of research group „Ecological Plant Protection in Arable Crops“ susanne.vogelgsang@agroscope.admin.ch, phone +41 (0)58 468 72 29 (please do not send applications to this e-mail address).