



Agroscope Job Vacancy

Position

Staff Research Scientist in Bacteriology and Phytoplasmology

Introduction

The agricultural sector is in the midst of a transition towards more sustainable and safer modes of production for the sake of the environment and consumer health; however, disease pressure is increasing, and limits these changes. The gathering pace of trade and global warming encourage the emergence and establishment within our borders of ever-increasing numbers of new pathogenic organisms which it behoves us to get to know better, in order to control their development.

In the Plant Protection department, the 'Virology, Bacteriology & Phytoplasmology' Research Group devises innovative research programmes with a view to identifying, understanding and controlling these emerging phytopathogenic organisms. At the same time, the Group continually incorporates the most recent methodological developments to produce and validate sensitive and reliable diagnostic tools used in the context of routine analyses for supervisory authorities and in the performance of epidemiological studies.

Experienced in the field of phytopathology, the successful candidate will have the necessary personal qualities and technical skills to strengthen the group's research projects and diagnostic capabilities/methodologies.

Tasks

- Devise and manage innovative research projects to develop our knowledge of organisms posing a particular threat to agriculture in Switzerland (Flavescence dorée, *Ralstonia solanacearum*, «Syndrome des Basses Richesses», etc.)
- Ensure the technical development and validation of new, more sensitive and reliable molecular detection tests
- Publish the results of research papers in specialist national and international journals, and ensure knowledge transfer to practitioners and the general public
- Acquire third-party funding from national and international research funds and private funding bodies
- Contribute to the implementation of a diagnostic-activity quality-control programme concerning the organisms relevant to your field of competence
- Ensure networking with practitioners, authorities and research institutes in Switzerland and abroad.

Requirements

- University degree with a PhD or equivalent experience, with an established scientific background in the Group's research areas (bacteriology, phytopathology, molecular biology)
- Experience in managing major national or international research projects
- Experience in quality control and/or bioinformatics would be an additional valued asset.
- Team spirit and very good communication skills within the Group as well as with our external partners and the scientific community
- Very good knowledge of an official (Swiss) language and English (office working language is French); good knowledge of a second official (Swiss) language



Information on the Employer

Agroscope is an innovative research institute for agricultural and nutritional sciences run according to the principles of New Public Management. Part of the Swiss Federal Administration, Agroscope reports to the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER. Agroscope is headquartered in Bern-Liebefeld and carries out its activities at a number of sites in Switzerland.

We offer a varied job in an interesting work environment, as well as thorough training. Flexible working hours, good social benefits and the option of job-sharing are other benefits of this position.

This is a permanent appointment.

Start date: 1 November 2019, or as agreed.

Place of Work	1260 Nyon VD
Salary Category	24
Employment Level	Full-time

Contact

If you are interested in this challenge and meet the requirements profile, we look forward to receiving your application (Olivier Schumpp, Head of the 'Virology, Bacteriology & Phytoplasmology' Research Group, tel. +41 (0)58 460 43 71 olivier.schumpp@agroscope.admin.ch). Please note that we cannot consider applications from recruitment agencies.

Have we piqued your interest? Would you like to learn more about this job?

Olivier Schumpp, Head of the 'Virology, Bacteriology & Phytoplasmology' Research Group, tel. +41 (0)58 460 43 71, would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.