

## PhD position available at Agroscope

### Position

**PhD position in bee health / agro-ecology / pollinator conservation**

### Project description

Pollinators face multiple threats including agrochemicals, pathogens, habitat loss and climate change. The European Horizon 2020 project (PoshBee: Pan-European Assessment, Monitoring and Mitigation of Stressors on the Health of Bees)<sup>1</sup> aims to better understand the impacts of these multiple pressures on a range of bee species and develop novel tools to help reduce risks and negative impacts. In the framework of this project, Agroscope will, together with European partners, conduct field, semi-field and laboratory research to contribute to enhanced and more sustainable health of bees and pollination services in Europe. The PhD candidate will 1) quantify the exposure of managed and wild bees in agricultural landscapes to potential threats such as pesticides, pathogens and food stress, 2) determine how pesticides, pathogens and food stress interactively affect the health and fitness of wild bees, and 3) contribute to the development of practice- and policy-relevant research outputs. Findings will help to reduce risks for pollinators in agroecosystems.

We are looking for an enthusiastic PhD to join the dynamic and interdisciplinary PoshBee team at Agroscope (Zürich, Switzerland).

### Tasks

- Collecting field data in agricultural landscapes in Switzerland
- Conducting semi-field experiments with wild bees
- Statistical analysis of data
- Publication of results in international journals

### Requirements

- MSc in Biology, Ecology, Environmental Sciences, Ecotoxicology or similar
- (Ideally) expertise in (agro-)ecology and/or ecotoxicology and/or bee pollinators
- Experience in collecting field data and/ or conducting laboratory or semi-field experiments
- Experience with statistical analysis using the software R; ideally basic GIS skills
- Good organizational skills
- Achievement-oriented, communicative personality with a capacity for teamwork
- Good communication and writing skills (ideally in English and German)

### Organisation

Agroscope is an innovative research institute for agriculture and nutrition attached to the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER. It has research stations at a number of sites around Switzerland. The Agroscope Department of Agroecology and Environment in Zürich (Reckenholz) conducts research for an environmental friendly and competitive agriculture.

We offer research work in an interdisciplinary project team, competent supervision and a modern research infrastructure. Start date: 1 October 2018, or as agreed. Duration: 3.5 years (42 months).

#### Place of work

Zürich

#### Salary

According to the standards of the Swiss National Science Foundation

#### Employment level

100%

### Application

We look forward to receiving your online application, including CV, academic transcripts and the addresses of 2-3 referees in a single PDF file to [human.resources@agroscope.admin.ch](mailto:human.resources@agroscope.admin.ch)

For further information, please feel free to contact Dr. Matthias Albrecht ([matthias.albrecht@agroscope.admin.ch](mailto:matthias.albrecht@agroscope.admin.ch), +41 58 468 74 13).

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