

## Open PhD position: Molecular base of phenotypic plasticity in red clover as response to land use

We are seeking a PhD student to work on a project with the important fodder plant *Trifolium pratense* (red clover), funded by the DFG (German Research Foundation) within the collaborative research consortium “Biodiversity Exploratories”.

Red clover changes its growth pattern in response to a dramatic loss of biomass by mowing and grazing. With transcriptome analysis we have identified a number of candidate genes to regulate this growth pattern change. The current project aims to carry out functional and detailed expression analysis with these candidate genes. In addition, we will carry out DNA methylation analysis to either corroborate or refute the hypothesis that epigenetic modifications play a role in this type of phenotypic plasticity. The project is in cooperation with other research groups at JLU Gießen.

Candidates applying for this position should hold a Master of Science or Diploma degree in Biology or related subjects and bring in strong experience in plant molecular genetics. The position is funded for three years by the German Research Foundation (DFG), the salary will be at scale 13 TV-L (65%), and we aim to fill the position as soon as possible.

We expect a high level of motivation, the ability to fruitfully work in a research team, and the capability to solve problems independently, our working language is English. We are a small international research team interested in the regulation of development and work mostly outside the well-known plant geneticists’ model organisms. Gießen is a medium-sized university town in the center of Germany with lovely surroundings and the Frankfurt airport close-by.

Please send your application including a letter of motivation, a short outline of previous work (both no longer than one page each), a full CV, transcripts, and contact information of two referees, all in a single PDF to [annette.becker@bot1.bio.uni-giessen.de](mailto:annette.becker@bot1.bio.uni-giessen.de).

For further information, please contact

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