

The Division of Biochemistry at Friedrich Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg studies how genetic and environmental factors influence the distribution of assimilates and nutrients in crops like potato and cassava, aiming to optimize yields. By applying biotechnological approaches, we seek to increase and protect the productivity of these important crops, with a focus on cassava's role in combating global hunger (watch our video: <https://cass-research.org/what-we-do/>).

To support our cassava research, we are offering

two PhD positions in Plant Biology (TV-L E13 65%).

Previous work within the "Cassava Source-Sink" project in the team of Prof. Dr. Uwe Sonnewald and Dr. Wolfgang Zierer has created important insights and resources for a deeper understanding of cassava assimilate allocation and storage root developmental processes (kindly see our recent publications: <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-arplant-080720-084456>, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jxb/erab106>, <https://doi.org/10.1093/plphys/kiae298>). With your help, we are looking to deepen our understanding of cassava storage root development.

We offer a stimulating research environment with friendly and supportive colleagues in a well-funded cassava research project. Our excellent network of internationally-renowned scientists and national and international travel opportunities opens possibilities far beyond our well-equipped laboratories in Erlangen.

We are looking for innovative and highly motivated people with a special interest in crop research and root development. The ideal candidate holds a Master's degree in a molecular plant science field and is both interested in experimental and bioinformatic methods. Strong English language skills are required, German language skills are a plus.

Please apply by submitting **a single PDF document** in English containing a research motivation letter and a detailed CV to project-cass@fau.de. The job posting is valid until February 28th 2025.

