

Postdoc position in Chemical Ecology (Nice, South of France)

Context: In agro-ecosystems, the "plant - herbivorous insect - natural enemy" system provides an ideal basic model to understand how the plant-inhabiting arthropod communities are structured and how various mechanisms (i.e. direct and indirect interactions) contribute to shape the community structure. In previous studies, we showed that variations in resource inputs (nitrogen and water availability) affect interactions among plants and herbivorous insects. Indeed, nitrogen and water variations induced bottom-up forces which affect the survival and development of pest insects by modifying plant nutritional quality and direct defense. In the context of ICAEA project, we'll continue to examine the bottom-up effect of fertilization and irrigation to the third trophic level (Natural enemy and particularly parasitoids) through plant secondary metabolism (indirect defense: crying for help). The post-doctoral researcher will be in charge of experimental set-up (plants and insects manipulation) and chemical analyses of plant volatiles.

Candidate Profile: A PhD in the field of chemical ecology, plant ecophysiology is required and the candidate must have experience in plant ecophysiology measurements and in gas and liquid chromatographies - mass spectrometry. Experience in entomology (plant-insect interactions) is also required. The candidate must be fluent in English as well as possess good oral and written communication skills. Due to the interdisciplinary context of this project, the candidate must work efficiently in an autonomous way and show good organizational abilities

Requirement: Maximal age: 35 years-old at the application.
PhD degree is required and the diploma have to be obtained out of French Region PACA.
If the candidate is currently on duty, it have to be out of French Region PACA when he/she applies.
Special attention will be given to foreign candidate applications.

Location: For the ecological part: ISA, Sophia Agrobiotech Institute, Sophia Antipolis.
For the chemical part: ICN, Chemical Institute of Nice, Campus Valrose, Nice

Start period: March 1, 2015, at the latest

Time period: 12 months

Gratification: 2000-2200 € free taxes.

Contact for any questions or further information:

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Please apply before November 25, 2014, by sending a complete CV and a Cover Letter to:
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