



23. March 2021

Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research

## **Offer for a master thesis**

### **Population dynamics and effects of Sitona beetles on lupine crops**

We are looking for a motivated young environmental scientist for developing a master's project in the context of pest in agricultural landscapes. This project aim at evaluating the population dynamics and effects of Sitona beetles on lupine crops. This knowledge will be used to develop a spatially explicit model to estimate the potential effects of landscape structure on crop yield losses. This task will involve field experiments, such as exclusion cages experiments and monitoring the population size through mark-recapture experiments.

The position is associated with the DAKIS (Digital Agricultural Knowledge and Information System), funded under the umbrella of the BMBF "Agricultural systems of the future" program. Our vision is that agricultural systems of the future can be spatially differentiated and functionally diversified by automated small-scale production systems, and tailored to society's needs for marketable goods as well as non-marketable goods through new, innovative information and management systems. Work will be conducted in Münchenberg, in association with the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) and the University of Potsdam.

#### **Methods:**

- Mark-recapture monitoring
- Exclusion cages experiments

#### **Your qualifications:**

- Very good Bachelor's degree in ecology, biology, or related field
- Knowledge of and experience in field and lab work methods and etiquette
- Physically willing and able to spend 4-6 hrs/day outside for 3-4 days/wk
- Good writing skills in English and interest in publishing thesis work
- Great organization and communication skills
- Applicants should generally be interested in biodiversity in the context of crop protection

## **Applicants are required to submit the following documents via e-mail:**

- Motivation letter (0,5 page)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Short summary of bachelor thesis (max. 1 page)

## **We offer:**

- Compensation for travel and work needed for field and lab work
- An interdisciplinary and collegial working environment that encourages independence and self-reliance

## **Application**

Applications should include a letter of motivation, a curriculum vitae and a copy of the bachelor diploma credits sheet. Women are particularly encouraged to apply. Applications from severely disabled persons with equal qualifications are favored. Please, send your application to **Prof. Dr. Claas Nendel** ([claas.nendel@zalf.de](mailto:claas.nendel@zalf.de)).

## **If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us:**

Prof. Dr. Claas Nendel, [claas.nendel@zalf.de](mailto:claas.nendel@zalf.de), Tel. +49 (0) 33432 82-355

