

Bachelor or Master's thesis in agronomy

The project **DIARNIKA** (2024-2027) deals with the diversification of cultivation systems as a key concept to increase functional biodiversity while supporting yield stability and climate resilience. DIARNIKA is investigating strip intercropping systems with a portfolio of crops on research stations in Brandenburg, Bavaria, and North Rhine-Westphalia. In addition to field trials, the project will also utilize crop models and long term experiment data to assess crop diversification potential across Germany.



We are offering the opportunity to work with the project through either a Bachelor or Master's thesis. The thesis research topic will be focused on either resource competition between the different crops or impacts of strip cropping on belowground interactions including roots and soil. The work will be carried out at the Dedelow field site and at the ZALF Müncheberg campus.

Requirements

- › Current bachelor or master's student in agronomy, environmental science, agroecology, or similar at a *Berlin or Brandenburg* university
- › Very good self-organization skills and reliability
- › Good spoken and written English, German is beneficial
- › Able to work long hours outside and travel to Dedelow
- › Previous experience working in agriculture or lab settings is a plus but not a requirement
- › Completed courses in basic statistics

For further questions and to submit an application (CV, transcript, and brief letter of motivation) please contact the ZALF contact for the project:

Jennifer Thompson, jennifer.thompson@zalf.de