



European
Research
Council



Postdoctoral position in molecular plant-fungus interactions

at the Laboratoire des Interactions Plante-Microorganismes, Toulouse, France

The Laboratory for Plant-Microbe Interaction studies (LIPM) provides an excellent environment to study plant-microbe interactions, with internationally recognized teams of plant biologists and microbiologists and complementary expertise in symbiotic and pathogenic interactions. It is part of the Federative Institute FR3450 (www.fraib.fr) and the TULIP labex excellence program (www.labex-tulip.fr) that includes ~400 researchers working on plant biology, microbiology, ecology and evolution, as well as a state-of-the-art facilities for live cell imaging (www.trigenotoul.com), genomics (www.get.genotoul.fr) and phenotyping.

Project description

The position will be associated with ongoing projects of the group “quantitative immunity in plants” aiming at unraveling the molecular bases of plant quantitative disease resistance to the fungal pathogen *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* (www.qiplab.weebly.com). In frame with the ERC starting grant project VariWhim (www.erc.europa.eu/projects-and-results/erc-funded-projects/variwhim), we develop multidisciplinary approaches to study the mechanisms and evolution of plant interactions with pathogenic fungi (Roux *et al.* 2014 PMID:24796392; Mbengue *et al.* 2016 PMID:27066056).

A postdoctoral position is available to study fungal cell reprogramming during host colonization using synthetic biology tools. The main objective of the project will be to investigate how the fungal pathogen *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* manipulates plant cells, by developing innovative reverse genetic tools and genetically-encoded probes. The position involves research using molecular biology, microbiology and cell biology for the functional analysis of fungal genes during plant colonization.

Qualification requirements

Applicants must hold a PhD degree in biology (plant biology, microbiology or closely related field), or an equivalent degree.

Experience in molecular biology, genetics and microbiology is required. Expertise with fluorescence and confocal microscopy, plant pathology or the genetic manipulation of fungi will be seen as an advantage.

Terms of employment

The position is full-time employment for one year, renewable until November 2018. The position is available immediately with expected start date from January 2017.

The initial application deadline is 30 November 2016.

Contact and application

For further information, please contact project leader Dr. Sylvain Raffaele +33 561 285 326, sylvain.raffaele@toulouse.inra.fr

Apply by contacting Sylvain Raffaele directly or via the LIPM application system (<https://www6.toulouse.inra.fr/lipm/Opportunités-Formations/Candidater>).

Applications should include a cover letter, CV with publication list, and contact information for two references.

