

Established in the heart of Europe's leading agricultural and agri-food area, AGROCAMPUS OUEST offers an impressive potential for research in areas ranging from food production to landscape architecture. As part of our new research program 'QUANTICONTROL - Quantifying the ecosystem service of pest biological control' we are seeking to fill a position as

POSTDOC in Statistical modelling of ecosystem services

Research Fields: Insect crop pests, biological control, pest-predator population dynamics, Bayesian hierarchical modelling, decision support tool

Your tasks: the project aims to test a new method for estimating natural pest regulation from Bayesian hierarchical modelling of field-collected pest-predators time series. This approach should allow testing how predator traits (e.g. dispersal capacity, diet specialization) relate to pest control and spatial scales in different agricultural contexts. You will perform the statistical modelling on available datasets and build an index measuring biological control intensity at field scale. You will collaborate with partners to develop field applications of the index for evaluating agro ecological systems.

Your profile:

- Doctor (PhD¹) in Ecology or Agricultural Sciences or Applied Statistics
- Proficient in statistical modelling, ideally within a Bayesian framework
- Fluency in R
- Team orientation
- Excellent communication skills
- Experience in crop protection or landscape ecology is welcome.

We offer:

- A dynamic working group gathering researchers from two research units (IGEPP and BAGAP, see websites) and professionals from agricultural cooperatives
- A one year position (possibly once renewable) in Rennes, Brittany
- An Annual Gross Salary of 42.6 k€ plus funding for scientific conferences

Application deadline: 18 January 2019

Job Starting Date: 01 March 2019

Please send a short Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter showing your interest and especially addressing your professional project, a list of your major works and letter(s) of recommendation to yann.tricault@agrocampus-ouest.fr, stephanie.aviron@inra.fr, sylvain.poggi@inra.fr, manuel.plantegenest@agrocampus-ouest.fr

Further information upon request

¹ maximum 3 years of experience after thesis defence. An international experience is required.