

PhD position in plant ecology/ecophysiology

One PhD Scholarship is available at the Department of Ecology of the W. Szafer Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences in the project "**Adaptation of *Arabidopsis halleri* to metal-polluted soils: linking environmental, genomic, and phenotypic information**".

Duration:	2 years
Sallary/month:	3'500 PLN scholarship which is adequate for living costs in Poland
Application deadline:	15th of October 2016
Expected start date:	November 2016
Project leader:	dr Alicja Babst-Kostecka

Description:

This project investigates the adaptation of the model species *A. halleri* to metal polluted soils. Our team aims to understand metal tolerance and accumulation processes by combining field and laboratory experiments. We are studying the genetic, physiological, and ecological mechanisms that allow this species to survive and reproduce in heavily contaminated post-mining areas. Our work is situated at the forefront of ecological research and will enable the successful candidate to gain experience in a variety of scientific approaches and techniques.

This position is suited for applicants with a solid background in plant ecology, evolution, and/or environmental sciences. Candidates are expected to be enrolled in the recognized program of PhD studies (3rd cycle) and will receive the opportunity to travel abroad several times a year and collaborate with project partners at WSL and ETH in Zurich, Switzerland. The successful candidate may participate in fieldwork, growth chamber experiments, chemical analyses of plant and soil material, advanced microscopy and/or genomic approaches. The duties also involve writing scientific reports, publishing in internationally recognized journals, and co-mentoring MSc students.

Minimum requirements:

- Master degree in ecology, evolutionary biology or related field.
- Strong oral and written communication skills in English.
- International mobility.

Desired requirements:

- Research experience.
- Independent thinking, creativity and motivation.
- Driver license.

To apply:

Please send a) a cover letter describing your research interests and goals (max 2 pages), b) CV indicating your qualifications and research experience, c) contact information for two academic/scientific references, d) confirmation of your PhD student status to Dr Babst-Kostecka via email (a.kostecka@botany.pl). For applicants with an origin in non EU-countries please provide a copy of your student visa.

Submission of the application implies consent to the processing of the personal data for the purpose of the selection process. Please include in submitted documents: "I hereby give consent for my personal data included in my job application to be processed for the purposes of the recruitment process under the Personal Data Protection Act as of 29 August 1997, consolidated text: Journal of Laws 2016, item 922 as amended."

The interview (in person or through Skype) will consist of a 10 min presentation of the previous work of the Candidate and the discussion of the topics related to the project. The interview will take place on **18th of October 2016** at the IB PAS, Lubicz 46 in Krakow, Poland.

For further information please contact Dr Alicja Babst-Kostecka (a.kostecka@botany.pl, +48 12 424 17 70).