



**Researcher in Fungal Diseases in
Fruit Trees for the
SUSTAINABLE PLANT PROTECTION
Program**

IRTA is a research institute owned by the Government of Catalonia ascribed to the Department of Agriculture and Livestock. It is regulated by Law 04/2009, passed by the Catalan Parliament on 15 April 2009, and it is ruled by private regulations. IRTA is one of the CERCA centers of excellence of the Catalan Research System.

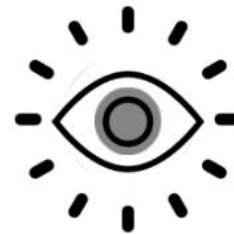
IRTA's purpose is to contribute to the modernization, competitiveness and sustainable development of agriculture, food and aquaculture sectors, the supply of healthy and quality foods for consumers and, generally, improving the welfare and prosperity of the society.

MISSION



Contribute to the modernization, competitiveness and sustainable development of the agrarian, food and aquaculture sectors, to the provision of healthy and quality food for consumers and, in general, to improve the welfare of the population.

VISION



Become a scientific reference, an engine of innovation and technology transfer. We want to be the strategic ally of the agri-food sector.

VALUES



1. Commitment
2. Creativity
3. Learning
4. Innovation
5. Leadership
6. Respect
7. Vocation of service

THE SUSTAINABLE PLANT PROTECTION PROGRAM

The priority of the **Sustainable Plant Protection** program is to improve plant health and crop production by developing innovative and low environmental impact control strategies. The program main research lines are focused on:

- The biology and epidemiology of pests and pathogens
- The application of beneficial organisms able to achieve quality standards of agricultural and forest products.
- The sustainable management of agroecosystems through a well-balanced use of nutrients, water resources and biodiversity.

ROLE PROFILE

IRTA is currently seeking a **Researcher in Fungal Diseases in Fruit Trees** with a deep knowledge on the biology, epidemiology, and disease management of **fungal diseases of fruit trees**, accordingly with the main research lines of the Sustainable Plant Protection program. The appointed candidate will lead research of excellence to boost advances in this area of knowledge. Within this framework, IRTA is proposing a research position with the following characteristics.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- To proactively initiate, supervise and/or lead internal and external research projects.
- To supervise and contribute to the design, implementation and analysis of experiments and field tests, and their subsequent reporting.
- To continuously update scientific knowledge to be positively transferred to stakeholders and end-users.
- To help positioning the Sustainable Plant Protection Program as a group of excellence through regular peer-reviewed publications, contributions at national and international congresses and supervision of PhD and postdoctoral researchers.
- To work in close collaboration with other teams of IRTA, as well as with external academic, institutional and industrial partners, in approaching new integrated control strategies to fungal diseases of fruit tree crops.
- To specifically participate in project-based collaboration with the Fruit Production and Post-harvest IRTA programs.

REQUIRED EXPERIENCE

Essential requirements:

- Academic degree (PhD) with proven scientific excellence and practical experience in Plant Pathology.
- Proven experience in fungal diseases, affecting fruit tree crops and/or other woody species, and an outstanding record of scientific publications in this field.
- Proven experience in project management, with good organizational and coordination skills.
- Good level of English, both spoken and written. Catalan and Spanish will be valued.

Desirable requirements:

- Full driving license for Europe and travelling availability.
- Good communicative skills and client-oriented thinking and working.
- Experience in supervising PhD students.

Personal profile:

- Strong organizational capability and ability to learn and successfully work within multidisciplinary teams.
- Teamwork skills and ability to establish and build relationships that will allow pursuing the objectives of the R&D activities.
- Willingness to organise and share information. Proactive in suggesting improvements.
- Flexibility and adaptation. To be able to prioritize tasks effectively. Capacity to anticipate, plan and write R+D projects, reports and technical documents.
- Receptive to challenges, ability to align the professional objectives and institutional priorities and strategy.

TERMS OF THE APPOINTMENT

This is a full-time position with the possibility of the successful candidate to be recruited as IRTA's permanent staff after a probationary period of one year. Gross salary will be commensurate with the qualifications and experience.

IRTA offers a rich environment for knowledge development and exchange where to develop a scientific career, and possibilities for professional promotion according to the attained achievements.

LOCATION: FRUITCENTRE, LLEIDA



Lleida is the capital of “El Segrià”, a large county on the western edge of Catalonia that takes its name from the River Segre, which crosses the county. Lleida is the economic and demographic hub of inland Catalonia.

The streets of Lleida, with their rich historical and monumental heritage, also bear witness to the business activities and initiatives befitting a major modern city that looks towards the future.

Lleida is the capital of one of the most fertile areas in Europe and its agri-food industry is one of the main drivers of its economy. Many benchmark companies have their headquarters in Lleida, including a large number of R&D firms that have set up in the Gardeny Agri-Food Science and Technology Park to take advantage of its international potential.

Lleida’s climate is continental, with hot summers and cold winters.

There is an extensive public and private transport network for travelling to Lleida. The AVE high-speed train is a good alternative. There is also a modern road network, including the AP2 Northeast motorway, the A2 Lleida-Barcelona motorway and the C25 motorway linking Lleida and Girona. Now, it is also possible to fly into Lleida-Alguaire airport.

KEY STEPS IN THE SELECTION PROCESS

If you wish to be considered for this position, please, go to the link:

<http://www.irta.cat/en/work-at-irta/>

and register yourself. You should load your **CV in Adobe Acrobat pdf** format before the 18th of January 2021. All information will be in the strictest confidence.

During the recruitment process, Human Resources Department will keep you informed on which step is your application.

Register to have full access to our job vacancy publications and future opportunities



Deadline timing job ref. 48/20 Researcher in Fungal Diseases in Fruit Trees	
60 days	Publication and diffusion of the job advertisement on IRTA's website, EURAXESS Jobs, social networks and other specific recruitment places.
5 following working days	Distribution of the pre-selected CVs which match eligibility criteria to the Selection Committee. Communication via e-mail with the not pre-selected candidates who will not be further included in the process.
20 following working days	Selection Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication via e-mail with the not-selected candidates by the Selection Committee. - Interview with selected candidates by the Selection Committee. - Accord of the Selection Committee stating the selected candidate and detailed reasoning for the decline of the rest of the candidates. - Communication via e-mail with the interviewed and not-selected candidates.
5 following working days	Provision by the selected candidate of requested legal and official documentation to the HR department to coordinate the start of the candidate.
First trimester of 2021	Start of employment (approximately)