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SCHEDULE

CONDITIONS FOR THE OFFER OF A PHD STUDENT CONTRACT FOR A FELLOWSHIP UdL-IRTA, FOR THE AREA OF SUSTAINABLE PLANT PROTECTION.

Ref.: CPI921 - Managing populations of thrips (Thysanoptera) in integrated and organic nectarine orchards

1. Scope of application

The Thematic Research Line of the project is Integrated Arthropod Pest Management Programs, included in the Spanish State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation (2017-2020) Challenge 2: “Bioeconomy: sustainability of primary and forest production systems, safety and quality food, marine and maritime research and bioproducts”.

Project Goals:

Under the hypothesis that the implementation of biological control of thrips in nectarine and the reduction of pesticides used to control *F. occidentalis* will contribute to a greater sustainability of the crop, the main goal of the project is to determine the potentialities of biological control of *F. occidentalis* and other thrips species.

The specific objectives are:

1. To identify damaging thrips species and their main natural enemies in the canopy and in ground covers of organic and integrated orchards.
2. To determine the predatory function of most common predators.
3. To determine the effect of pesticides field applications on *F. occidentalis* and its predators.
4. To evaluate the susceptibility and resistance of *F. occidentalis* populations to the most commonly used insecticides.

Supervisors:

IRTA - Dra. Dolors Bosch i Serra. Sustainable Crop Protection Program. Alcalde Rovira Roure, 191. 25198 – Lleida. dolors.bosch@irta.cat.

UdL - Dr. Jesús Avilla Hernández. Department of Crop and Forest Science and Agrotecnio. ETSEA. Alcalde Rovira Roure, 191. 25198 – Lleida. jesus.avilla@udl.cat.



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Laboratory:

The PhD student will be located at Lleida (Catalonia, Spain). The work will be carried out at the facilities of the joint laboratory that IRTA and UdL share at the Agri-Food Campus of the University of Lleida.

2. Requisites for applicants

The fellowship may be requested by candidates meeting the following requisites:

2.1. Candidates must hold one of the following degrees: Agricultural, Forestry, Biology, Environmental Sciences or similar and have completed their studies leading to such an award in January 2015 or later.

2.2. A master's in plant protection, agronomy or a subject related with the project objectives.

2.3. Not to have a PhD.

2.4. Availability for immediate start and exclusive dedication to the doctorate for the duration of this fellowship.

2.5. Prior experience in matters of integrated arthropod pest management, agricultural production systems, field and laboratory work, data processing, software programming, GIS and 3D data processing will be viewed positively. Good English skills (level B2 or higher) and driving license B required, with availability for local trips to the fields and stays up to three months in foreign research centres or universities.

2.6. Candidates must meet the requirements established by the Doctoral School of the University of Lleida (UdL). The principal requirement is to have 300 ECTS between degree and a master degree in the Spanish system or equivalent.

2.7. Candidates who have been chosen for an interview with the Selection Committee, should bring –for the interview- a certified copy of the degree and/or master, as well as the academic record showing the marks of all subjects studied.

2.8. Foreign candidates who have been chosen for an interview with the Selection Committee should bring –for the interview- a certified copy and certified translation of the degree and/or master obtained at a foreign university, as well as an academic record showing the marks of all subjects studied.

2.9. The candidate selected will have to make his/her inscription to the Doctoral School of the University of Lleida (UdL).



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3. Duration

Notwithstanding the provisions of Point Nine of this offer, IRTA will subscribe with training research staff holding the Master's a temporary employment agreement linked to a specific service by virtue of which the researcher will be employed by the IRTA, with both parties assuming the contractual obligations arising therefrom and which, in any case, will be in line with the content of the application.

The duration of the PhD Student contract will be for one year, extendible to two more years by yearly periods, subject to the issuance by the doctoral candidate of the report corresponding (from the student and from the Doctoral School) to the yearly period completed.

4. Suspension of the PhD Student contract

The suspension of the PhD Student contract on the grounds established under articles 45 *et seq.* of the Workers' Statute will not imply any extension to the duration of the PhD Student contract except for situations of temporary incapacity, risk during pregnancy, maternity, adoption or fostering, risk while breastfeeding and paternity during the duration of the PhD Student contract, which will interrupt the calculation, pursuant to the provisions of Article 11.1.b) of the Consolidated Text of the Workers' Statute Act.

5. Financial remuneration⁽¹⁾

The financial remuneration for the PhD Student contract will be €1,236,39/gross per month (€17,309.45/gross per annum) for the first and second years. For the third year, it will be €1,324.70/gross per month (€18,545,84/gross per annum), which will be subject to the corresponding withholdings, pursuant to prevailing regulations, and to the collective employment agreement of IRTA.

IRTA will also pay the fees of the doctoral school when receiving the enrolment.

6. Applications

Interested parties should be registered at the Employment Service's website of IRTA <http://www.irta.es/en/work-at-irta/> adding his/her *Curriculum vitae*



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7. Application period

The period for submitting applications opens as of the date of the offer and ends on October 15th, 2021

8. Assessment and selection

The selecting of candidates will be carried out by an *ad hoc* committee consisting of the two tutors and a third researcher appointed by them.

9. Acceptance of PhD Student contract and payment

When accepted, the applicant must sign a document undertaking to comply with all the conditions of the PhD Student contract established in these terms, and in particular, with the following:

(a) To join the centre within one month of notification and to have exclusive dedication to the training programme proposed, in accordance with the internal rules of the centre. Failure to join could be considered to be a waiver of the right to financial aid.

(b) To present to the tutors appointed by IRTA and UdL, each year, 30 days before the renewal date of the agreement, a report on the work carried out to date in accordance with the model to be provided by the HR Department.

(c) To send to the tutors appointed by IRTA and UdL a copy of any publications, articles and studies which might arise from the training programme carried out and the results obtained.

(d) To refer, in any written production arising from the training programme carried out, to the present PhD Student grant.

The non-fulfilment of any of the conditions of these terms without justification may imply the revocation of the PhD Student contract.

10. Assessment and continuity of the PhD Student contract

Based on the report drawn up by the interested party (mentioned in Point 9 (b) of this offer), the tutor(s) must prepare therein a report based on the tasks performed by the doctoral candidate and recommend the continuity or revocation of the PhD Student contract for the forthcoming yearly period. In the event of a negative assessment, grounds must be given.



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To proceed with the continuity of the contract it will be necessary as well to present a copy of the registration to a pertinent PhD course and the corresponding evaluation report from the Academic Committee of the PhD program or from the PhD School.

11. Intellectual property

IRTA and UdL are exclusive holders of the intellectual and industrial property rights which might arise as a result of the activity carried out by the candidate or technologist during the training programme, notwithstanding recognition of authorship when necessary.

The publicising of any information obtained by the candidate in the form of scientific or informative articles, presentations for meetings and conferences or any other means or format may be carried out where necessary at the initiative and with the consent of the director(s) assigned by the IRTA and UdL to each of them.

12. Incompatibilities

This PhD Student contract will be incompatible with any other activity related to the research and training purpose of the same.

13. Waiver of the PhD Student contract

In the event the beneficiary should waive their right to the PhD Student contract, they must provide IRTA and UdL with a report on the tasks performed up to the time of their experimental waiver, notwithstanding the prior notice established by legal regulations. All data obtained during the training programme will be returned to IRTA and UdL.

14. Confidentiality undertaking

The beneficiary of this contract agrees to keep any data or information to which it might have access as a result of their relationship with IRTA and UdL strictly confidential, whatever the form of access to such data or information and the format in which they appear, it being totally prohibited to make copies without prior consent.

The access to and processing of data of a personal nature as a result of the relationship established with the IRTA and UdL will be carried out in accordance with the purposes established in the agreement, with the duty of secrecy continuing even after such relationship has concluded.



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15. Data protection

Any data provided by candidates will be recorded in a file of IRTA in order to manage the process.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Spanish Organic Law 15/1999, of 13 December, on the protection of data of a personal nature, any interested parties may exercise their rights to and rectification before the Human Resource Department of the IRTA.

TIMING PHD STUDENT CONTRACT: CPI921	
Deadline: <i>October 15th 2021</i>	Process
30 days	Publication and diffusion of the job advertisement on IRTA's website, EURAXESS Jobs, social networks and other specific recruitment places.
2 following working days	To send, for its study, the pre-selected CV which match eligibility criteria to the Selection Committee. To send an automated e-mail for those who have not been pre-selected and cannot continue the process.
10-15 following working days	Selection Committee: .Interview with preselected candidates. .To send an e-mail for those who have not been selected by the Selection Committee. .Committee Selection Agreement with the selected candidate, giving reasons for the rest to be excluded. . Notification by e-mail to the candidates who have been interviewed but not selected.
12-16 following working days	To send to IRTA all the needed official documentation in order to make the work contract and co-ordination for establishing the start of the employment.
December 2021	Start of employment.

(1) The financial remuneration of the PhD Student contract may not be less than 56% of the salary established for the category of Research Collaborator F of the Collective Agreement of the IRTA during the first two years and 60% in the third year (Act 14/2011 of 1 June).