







IRTA is a research institute owned by the Government of Catalonia ascribed to the Ministry of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda. IRTA is one of the CERCA centers of excellence of the Catalan Research System. Our 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. We are granted by the EU with the [HRS4R](#) distinction for "HR Excellence in Research" and thus we offer a rich environment for knowledge development and exchange where to develop a scientific career, and possibilities for professional promotion according to the attained achievements. Check our initiatives [here](#).

Researcher in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence for the Animal Breeding and Genetics Program

[ref. 162/22]

IRTA is currently seeking an enthusiastic and motivated Researcher with a PhD related to Animal Breeding and/or Animal Production, as well as expertise in statistics and data analysis, to join the [Animal Breeding and Genetics Program](#). We invite applications from ambitious candidates with relevant research experience and passion to conduct research and innovation activities on data science and artificial intelligence applied to the optimisation of animal breeding and production systems: phenotyping, modelling, genetic/genomic prediction, and development of decision support tools.

-  Head of the Program: Dra. Raquel Quintanilla
-  Job location: [Torre Marimon](#)
-  Full-time position - 37.5 h/week
-  Terms of appointment: permanent position
-  Salary: To be resolved according to the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate
-  Employee Benefits: 22 vacation days, 3 days of family & work conciliation, 45h of personal days, Friday afternoon off, Compressed Summer schedule from 15/06 to 15/09, Conciliation schedule.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Lead and actively contribute fundraising through the preparation and submission of project proposals for public competitive calls and for contracts with the private sector.
- Contribute to the development of a new Digital Platform aimed at the pig sector by developing and implementing new strategies of data integration, analytical tools, and artificial intelligence algorithms for an optimal decision support system.
- Participate in the research and innovation activities of the Program, particularly in those related to new approaches and developments (including artificial intelligence) for phenotyping new traits and for genetic/genomic breeding value prediction, and in the planning and execution of the experiments.
- Write and submit scientific articles with the results of the performed research, contributing to the scientific production of the Animal Breeding and Genetics Program.
- Participate in the dissemination and transfer of the research results to the society and livestock sectors through technical articles, conferences, and sectorial meetings.
- Identify opportunities for cutting-edge research and innovation to address strategic priorities of the Animal Breeding and Genetics Program.

- Contribute to the teamwork and team-spirit in the Animal Breeding and Genetics Program within the Animal Production Area, fostering collaboration and integration activities.

Required qualifications and experience

- Ph.D. in Animal Breeding, Animal Production or related fields.
- Experience and expertise in statistics, quantitative and statistical genetics, multivariate analysis, data modelling and programming.
- Proved research skills: participation in competitive research projects and scientific article writing.
- Dissemination skills: presentation/communication skills and technical writing.
- Capacity to successfully develop collaborative research links with national and international research organizations and to interact closely with private companies. The successful candidate will be expected to attract funds from private and public sectors for research, interacting with stakeholders.

Desirable requirements

- Advanced knowledge of computational statistics, prediction theory and artificial intelligence.
- Experience in modelling and developing predictive systems.
- Deep knowledge of the animal breeding and production sectors.

Languages

- Proficiency in English
- Catalan and Spanish are valued

Application process

If you wish to be considered for this position, please, apply via our [Recruitment Platform](#) to the job post with reference 162-22 and upload your CV and motivation letter. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**Deadline for application:
11/01/2023**

Timings in the Recruitment Process of ref. 162-22 Researcher in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence for the Animal Breeding and Genetics Program

44 natural days	Publication and diffusion of the job advertisement on IRTA's website, EURAXESS Jobs, social media and other specific recruitment places.
5 following working days	Distribution of the pre-selected CVs which matching eligibility criteria to the Recruitment Committee. Communication via e-mail with the not pre-selected candidates who will not be further included in the process.
20 following working days	Recruitment Committee: - Communication via e-mail with the not-selected candidates by the Recruitment Committee. - Interview with selected candidates by the Recruitment Committee. - Accord of the Recruitment 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
10 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 2023	Start of employment

IRTA guarantees an open, transparent, and merit-based recruitment process (OTM-R) to all registered candidacies avoiding thus any bias on gender, origin, age, ideology, or other circumstances that could be discriminatory. Candidates in a situation of social exclusion will be considered in the first place.

Please know that if you are the chosen candidate and you are from a country which does not belong to the UE, IRTA's Human Resources Department will support you to get the residence and working permits.