







*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](#).*

## PhD candidate for the Animal Health Program

[ref. CPI1523]

IRTA is currently seeking an enthusiastic and motivated PhD candidate to join the [Animal Health Program](#). We invite applications from ambitious candidates with relevant research experience and passion to conduct research and innovation activities on the epidemiology of animal diseases. The epidemiology research group in IRTA-CReSA is currently working on improving the knowledge of the epidemiology of animal diseases (both related to animal health and zoonoses). In relation to animal health, the group is exploring the use of different statistical techniques, including machine learning, to take advantage of different sources of data available (e.g. production data, animal movements...) to improve the surveillance and control of animal diseases. In relation to zoonoses, the group is working on improving the understanding of the epidemiology of diseases transmitted by vectors (mosquitoes and ticks).

-  Supervisor/s: Carles Vilalta & Sebastián Napp (IRTA-CReSA)/Amanda Fernandez (Department of Mathematics, UAB)
-  Job location: [CReSA](#)
-  Full-time position (37.5 h/week)
-  Terms of appointment: The duration of the PhD Candidate contract will be for one year, extendible by yearly periods to a maximum of three (3) years.
-  Salary: The financial remuneration will be €1,291.18/gross per month (€18.076,52/gross per annum) for the first and second years. For the third year, it will be €1,383.41/gross per month (€19.367,74/gross per annum), which will be subject to the corresponding withholdings, pursuant to prevailing regulations, and to the collective employment agreement of IRTA <sup>(1)</sup>  
IRTA will also pay the annual fees of the doctoral school when receiving the enrolment.
-  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.

### Required qualifications and experience.

-Candidates must comply with the following requirements:

- a) A Degree in Mathematics, Statistics, or science-related field.
- b) A Master's in data science, artificial intelligence, (bio)statistics or disciplines related to data analysis and computation.
- c) To be in a position to access a doctoral programme according to the requirements of Catalan universities, i.e. accrediting between 60 and 120 ECTS credits at the official university master's degree level or equivalent.
- d) Not to have a previous PhD degree.

## Desirable requirements

- Strong motivation to work with different types of data in an applied scientific scenario.
- Capacity for learning and getting new skills and working capacities.
- Prior experience in epidemiology and animal health will be valued.
- Programming skills (R and Python), communication (verbal and written) and statistical data analysis skills will be highly valued.

## 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 CPI1523 and upload your CV and motivation letter. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**Deadline for application:**  
**27/07/2023**

Timings in the Recruitment Process of ref. CPI1523 (Use of existing data sets to improve the epidemiology of animal health diseases)

<b>30 natural days</b>	Publication and diffusion of the job advertisement on IRTA's website, EURAXESS Jobs, social media and other specific recruitment places.
<b>5 following working days</b>	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.
<b>20 following working days</b>	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
<b>10 following working days</b>	Provision by the selected candidate of requested legal and official documentation to the HR department to coordinate the start of the candidate.
<b>Third Trimester 2022</b>	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.*

<sup>(1)</sup> The financial remuneration of the PhD Candidate 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, 60% in the third year and 75% in the fourth.