The University of Bonn and the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) e.V. invite applications for

2 Research Associates or PhD students

Soil Microbiology and Biogeochemistry of the Wetland Methane Cycle

Each institution will employ one coworker at the work places Bonn (Institute of Crop Science and Resource Conservation) or Müncheberg/Berlin (RA Landscape Functioning, Microbial Biogeochemistry, ZALF).

Both announced positions are part of the DFG project “Methane Dynamics of Kettle Holes in a Postglacial Agricultural Landscape – Microbial Ecology and Biogeochemistry (MeDKet)”. The aim of MeDKet is to gain deep insights into the soil and plant microbiota in kettle holes to explain net methane surface fluxes. These small but very abundant wetlands of the northern hemisphere play a not understood role for global methane emissions. Kettle holes are often impacted by agricultural landuse with unknown effects on methane emissions. Both coworkers will conduct joint field and laboratory experiments, and will use molecular techniques such as $^{13}$C stable isotope probing, metagenomics, qPCR, metabarcoding to assess dynamics and ecophysiology of methanotrophs and methanogens. This work will be combined with highly resolved CH$_4$ and CO$_2$ onsite measurements and lab-scale experiments. Both positions are limited to three years.

Position 1 (University of Bonn, INRES)

Your profile:
- MSc degree (or almost finished) of a study program in (micro)biology, agriculture or related natural sciences
- Solid knowledge background in microbiology and molecular biology techniques
- Advantageous experiences in: isotope analyses, NGS data analysis, AND/OR functional gene analysis of methanotrophs AND/OR methanogens
- Very good communication skills and command in English
- Highly motivated, open-minded, eager to learn, the ability to work in a team

We offer:
- Opportunity to work in an interdisciplinary research project at the University Bonn and in close cooperation with the ZALF
- Working in a collegial and open-minded atmosphere
- Excellent research facilities with well-equipped laboratories
- Salary Classification according to the collective agreement of the federal states (TV-L) TV-L/13 (65%) (including special annual payment).

Position 2 (ZALF, Research Area 1, Group MicGeo, Humboldt University of Berlin)

Your profile:
- MSc degree (or almost finished) of a study program in (micro)biology, agriculture or related natural sciences
- Advantageous - experiences in: metagenomics, isotope analyses, NGS data analysis, functional gene analysis, multivariate statistics OR/AND in greenhouse gas measurements
- Very good communication skills and command in English
- Highly motivated, open-minded, eager to learn, the ability to work in a team

We offer:
- Opportunity to work in an interdisciplinary research project at the University Bonn and ZALF
- A collegial and open-minded working atmosphere in a dynamic research institution
- Excellent research facilities with well-equipped laboratories
- Salary Classification according to the collective agreement of the federal states (TV-L) TV-L/13 (65%) (including special annual payment).
- PhD at Humboldt university of Berlin (Faculty of Life Sciences)
Women are particularly encouraged to apply. Applications from severely disabled persons with equal qualifications are favored. The University of Bonn and ZALF are both committed to diversity and equal opportunity. Both are certified as family-friendly institutions. Both aim to increase the proportion of women in areas in which women are under-represented and to promote particularly their careers. Both therefore urges women with relevant qualifications to apply.

Application deadline is 30. September 2021.

Please, send applications only by email (incl. a letter of motivation, CV, copies of certificates, two recommendation letter(s) and/or reference contacts, a statement, which position you prefer). Please, combine and convert all of your documents into one PDF file (max. 5 MB).

Email addresses for application to bewerbungen@zalf.de. All candidates being invited will be selected in a joint online interview together with all partners of the project MedKet.

If you have further requests before application, please contact Dr. Katharina Frindte (INRES, kfrindte@uni-bonn.de) or Prof. Dr. Steffen Kolb (ZALF, kolb@zalf.de).