



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN

The Department of Developmental Biology at the Georg-August-University Göttingen is looking for a

PhD Student (f/m/d) in Insect Biotechnology

- Pay grade 13 TV-L (65%) -

The position should be filled by December 2023.

The regular working hours will be 25,87 hours per week with a limited contract of 3 years.

Your project:

The cherry vinegar fly, *Drosophila suzukii*, is an invasive alien species that is becoming a growing problem for environment and global economy, as it infests berries, stone fruits, and grapes, with currently no effective and environmentally sustainable pest control method available. The project is about the establishment of strains of this species that enable automated separation of males and females or the production of male-only populations by conditional female killing. The males can be sterilized and used in the successful genetic control approach called Sterile Insect Technique. To reach this, biotechnological design will be used to generate selectable color mutations or temperature sensitive designer proteins for use as conditional switches, which will also be interesting to synthetic biology in other biological or engineering fields. For male-specific rescue, functional copies of the respective genes shall be placed onto the Y chromosome by modern gene editing technologies to generate foreign DNA-free strains, which can be provided to sustainable and environmental friendly insect pest management programs against this invasive agricultural pest.

Your profile:

You should hold a Master degree (or equivalent) in Biology or related fields and have a strong interest in genetics, developmental biology, molecular biology, and/or insect pest management. A solid technical background in molecular genetic work (e.g. DNA, RNA, RNAi, genome editing etc.) and/or insect husbandry would be welcome.

You should like to work in a closely collaborating and interactive team and you should show a high degree of independence in experimental planning and interpretation.

Your work will be embedded in the emerging focus on molecular genetics in zoological and evolutionary questions at the University of Göttingen, which is one of the top German universities. You will join one of our structured PhD programs in GAUSS and/or GGNB.

The University of Göttingen is an equal opportunities employer and places particular emphasis on fostering career opportunities for women. Qualified women are therefore strongly encouraged to apply in fields in which they are underrepresented. The university has committed itself to being a family-friendly institution and supports their employees in balancing work and family life. The mission of the University is to employ a greater number of severely disabled persons. Applications from severely disabled persons with equivalent qualifications will be given preference.

Application:

Please send your application with the usual documents merged into one PDF-file. Please include at least:

- Letter of motivation
- Certificates including the degrees for secondary school (Abitur), BSc, and MSc.
- Contact details of two persons, who can judge your scientific work.

Send your application by e-mail until **October 31st** to

sekretariat.entwbiol@biologie.uni-goettingen.de.

Please add the keyword "InsectBiotech" to mail and cover letter. The documents will be deleted 3 months after hiring.

For any further questions feel free to contact

Prof. Dr. Ernst Wimmer (Tel.:0551/39-28666, E-Mail: ewimmer@gwdg.de)

Abteilung Entwicklungsbiologie, Justus-von-Liebig-Weg 11, 37077 Göttingen, Germany.

With submission of your application, you accept the processing of your applicant data in terms of data-protection law. Further information on the legal basis and data usage is provided in the Information General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

