

Job Offer Announcement	Vacancy Code 154_CRI_APD
Job title	Post doc in “Insect vector population biology and ecology”
Job description	<p>A postdoc position is available in the Chemical Ecology unit, Sustainable Agro-Ecosystems and Bioresources department of the Research and Innovation Centre. The position is related to the project Scopazzi funded by the Autonomous Province of Trento (Accordo di Programma) and the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Producers in Trentino (APOT) and aimed at providing new insights into the biology and ecology of the insects vectors of apple proliferation for the development of sustainable control strategies.</p> <p>The postdoc will join a large interdepartmental project involving various researchers and students (including entomologists, molecular evolutionists, bioinformaticians, microbiologists) whose final goal is to disentangle the biology of the vector-phytoplasma-host biology.</p> <p>Apple phytoplasma disease deforms apple plants and reduces yield and fruit quality. The successful candidate will be in charge of conducting a research project aiming at uncovering the ecology of <i>Candidatus Phytoplasma mali</i> and its vectors. The approach intended for the study entails the identification and the ecology of alternative vectors of the disease agent and the assessment of the role of co-occurring microorganisms (such as endophytes and/or endosymbionts) in disease ecology and transmission</p>
Duties / Tasks	<p>The successful candidate will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find phytoplasma hosts (insects and plants) and characterise their biology; • Apply insect-plant transmission trials to assess candidate species occurring in the apple agroecosystem as disease vectors; • Study the interactions between plant/insect microbiota and the disease ecology and epidemiology
Keywords	Apple phytoplasma disease, insect ecology, microbial ecology, hemiptera, vectors, endophytes, endosymbionts, epidemiology
Contract type and length, Level	Project collaboration contract, 34 months (Contratto di collaborazione coordinata e continuativa a progetto)
Languages knowledge from Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)	Fluent in spoken and written English (C1). Knowledge of Italian will be considered a plus (B1)
IT knowledge	Scientific softwares for molecular biology applications (i.e. BLAST, ClustalW, Primer3, Mega6); Software for Statistical analysis (i.e. Statistica, SPSS, R etc)
Required title to join the selection	PhD in Biology, Agronomy or equivalent
Required experience	<p>Required skills include: DNA isolation and amplification (PCR, RT-PCR), primer design, DNA handling, analysis of sequence data.</p> <p>Desirable skills: insect population and landscape ecology; ecology of insect vectors (disease ecology and transmission); microbial ecology</p>

Psychosocial skills	Teamworking and supervising skills are especially welcome as the project involves close interaction with a team of scientists tackling the same issue from different sides
Supervisor	Valerio Mazzoni
Summary of entry requirements	1. PhD in Biology, Agronomy or equivalent
Hiring conditions	<p>Please note that Mach Foundation enforces Legislative Decree No. 368/2001, including its Art. 5(4bis) stating that fixed terms-contracts involving equivalent tasks could not be legally extended or renewed beyond 36 months. The Foundation may also take reasonable steps in order to verify whether statements made in applications (and similar documents) as well as in the attached CV are true or not.</p> <p>We invite candidates with the rights of Law 68/99 to notify it in the curriculum vitae for the application.</p>

Application

To apply for the position the applicants should send a message mentioning in the subject the recruiting code (154_CRI_APD) to the email account curricula@fmach.it including the following items:

1. an up-to-date CV (Please add the following phrase to your CV otherwise your application will not be considered: *I consent to the use of my personal data in accordance with the provisions of decree 196/2003*). **Save your file in this way: Surname Name_cv.doc or .pdf;**
2. the filled application form available online *154_CRI_APD_Application*. **Save your file in this way: Surname Name_af.doc;**

Deadline

The deadline for the submission of the applications is **June 29, 2014**.

Short list candidates

FEM will short-list the applicants. We will notify the short-list candidates for an interview in San Michele or for a phone interview. The other candidates will be notified at the end of the recruiting procedure.

Information about CRI

The Research and Innovation Centre of the foundation (CRI), with more than 300 employees, has a mission to promote and enhance the Trentino land-based economy through studies and innovation that improve agricultural and environment products and enhance the quality and nutritional value of food products. It sustains the region's environmental resources through development and promotion of low-impact agricultural practices, study and preservation of biodiversity, and characterisation of alpine and subalpine ecosystems. The centre operates fully integrated research programs and state-of-the-art platform technologies to deliver innovative solutions and competitive products for our stakeholders and end-user communities.

Equal opportunities

The position is open to both genders, Law n. 903, 9/12/1977, art. 1. The policy and practice of the Edmund Mach Foundation require that all staff are offered equal opportunities within employment.

Data treatment

All data supplied by applicants will be used only for the purposes of determining their suitability for the position and will be held in accordance with the principles of the Personal Data Protection Code, Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003. By sending the Cv and application, the candidate consent and authorize the Foundation to the use of his/her personal data.