

Postdoctoral position

BEETLE-FUNGUS CO-INVASION GENOMICS

The Laboratory of Evolutionary Genetics located at the University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland) invites applications for a postdoctoral position with Prof. Daniel Croll.

Biological invasions, the large-scale and often human-assisted translocation of species beyond their natural distribution, are a significant driver of worldwide biodiversity declines. We will focus on unravelling the global co-invasion histories of multiple ambrosia beetles and their mutualistic ambrosia fungi, which pose serious threats to tree health. The key tasks will include the generation and analyses of joint beetle-symbiont genomic datasets, reference genome assemblies and population genomic analyses. Investigations will focus on global bridgehead and diversity hotspots as well as predicting future trajectories of the ongoing invasion. The role of symbiont mismatches and deleterious effects at invasion fronts will also be of great interest. This project is anchored in a close collaboration with Dr. Eckehard Brockerhoff located at the WSL near Zurich.

Required qualifications: PhD in biology or related fields, strong interest in evolutionary genetics and experience in bioinformatics. Motivation and enthusiasm for research are key. Prior experience in population genomics, mycology, forest pathology, and/or statistical analyses may be a bonus.

We offer a very welcoming and collaborative research environment with many opportunities for open discussions. The University of Neuchâtel hosts excellent researchers, is centrally located in Switzerland with a wealth of cultural activities, a beautiful lakefront and views of the Swiss Alps.

Application: for 20 May 2025 (or until filled). Review of applications starts immediately.

Starting date/duration: earliest 1 July 2025 (or upon agreement). The initial duration of the postdoc position is one year with the possibility for a 1.5-year extension.

Please send your application as a single PDF to daniel.croll@unine.ch including: a motivation letter (max 1 page), a CV, 1-3 key preprints or publications and contact details of 2-3 references (e.g. PhD supervisor, no letter is required at this stage). For more information about us visit our group website <https://pathogen-genomics.org> or contact Prof. Daniel Croll.

The University of Neuchâtel is committed to promoting equality of opportunity.