

Postdoctoral position

EVOLUTION OF CROSS-KINGDOM RNA CROSSTALK

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

Crop pathogens threaten global food security, with small RNAs (sRNAs) playing key roles in some host-pathogen interactions. This project focuses on *Botrytis cinerea* and will attempt to recapitulate small RNA evolution. The tasks include contributing to a high-quality pangenome with an emphasis on transposable elements, compare sRNA expression across environments and hosts to comprehensively capture sRNA production and locus structure. The project will also include the application of deep learning to identify common properties and evolutionary trajectories of sRNA.

Required qualifications: PhD in biology or related fields, strong interest in evolutionary genomics and experience in bioinformatics. Motivation and enthusiasm for research are key. Prior experience in deep learning, transposable elements, small RNA biology, and/or mycology 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 31 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 up to 2.5 additional years.

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.