



The **Institute of Sugar Beet Research (IfZ)** associated with the Georg-August University is a nationally and internationally active research institution in Germany and aimed at developing concepts for sustainable sugar beet production. The IfZ is funded by the Association of the German Sugar Industry.

Within a scientific research project, funded by Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (BMEL) "**Development of sustainable control strategies against viral yellowing in sugar beet based on RNA spray (ViVeBeet)**" we are seeking a

Research Scientist (PhD-student) (m/f/d)

for employment (65%) limited to three years, beginning **as soon as possible**. Payment will be according to TV-L EG 13. The successful candidate obtains the chance to perform PhD-studies within the project and in context of the "Graduate School Forest and Agriculture" (GFA) of the University Göttingen.

The research project aims to develop innovative control strategies against Virus Yellows in sugar beet. The viruses to be worked on cause economically significant yellowing diseases in sugar beet cultivation. The aim of the sub-project is to develop pathogen-specific double-stranded RNA molecules for direct exogenous application (called RNA spray) to trigger RNA interference and resulting virus resistance in sugar beet in the laboratory and in the field.

The research project is being carried out in cooperation with the Julius Kühn-Institute (JKI), Braunschweig and the Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology (IME), Gießen.

Your tasks:

- Cloning of viral genes, use of molecular biological techniques such as dsRNA production and labelling, RNA detection methods, methods of virus infection, aphid transmission of plant viruses, quantitative virus detection methods
- Preparation of scientific manuscripts and reports, presentation of results at scientific conferences

Your profile:

- Candidates must possess a degree in agricultural sciences, biology or related disciplines and desirably in phytopathology.
- Prerequisites are experience in plant molecular biology, desirably plant molecular virology.
- This employment requires the willingness to travel and offers contact opportunities to international research institutions and sugar beet breeders.
- Ability to work independently, team-oriented and flexible is assumed

We offer:

- Being part of our dedicated scientific team and international network
- Interdisciplinary research and intercultural work environment
- participation in an extensive training programme
- Flexible working hours with the possibility of working partly in home office
- The doctorate is accompanied by active participation in the doctoral program for agricultural sciences of the Georg-August University

For more detailed information about the research project please contact Prof. Dr. Mark Varrelmann, varrelmann@ifz-goettingen.de.

Please submit your application, including a detailed curriculum vitae and official academic transcripts from all institutions attended to Institut für Zuckerrübenforschung, Holtenser Landstraße 77, D-37079 Göttingen or as a pdf attachment to bewerbung@ifz-goettingen.de.