

Postdoc position (JOHANN HEINRICH VON THÜNEN-INSTITUT)
Bewerbungsfrist: 17.12.2018

The *Institute of Biodiversity* at the Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institute, Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, in Braunschweig is offering a full-time (currently 39 hours per week), fixed-term position to 30.09.2021 to be filled as soon as possible for a **Scientist (m/f)**

The tasks comprise research and coordination within the project “FInAL”. In the frame of the “Action Programme for Insect Protection” („Aktionsprogramm Insektenschutz“), FInAL will establish landscape laboratories in typical and representative agricultural landscapes of Germany in which innovative measures for facilitation of insects through integrated cultivation of renewable resources in a landscape context will be developed, demonstrated and evaluated.

The Thünen Institute of Biodiversity conducts research and develops scientific foundations as well as scientifically-based concepts in the field of biological diversity of agricultural landscapes. The institute provides consulting for politics with respect to current and strategic questions within its scientific-ecological field of competence.

The successful candidate will help to develop and to test measures of landscape design for facilitation of insects in connection with cultivation of renewable resources. Further, she/ he will coordinate the scientific control of success and evaluation of effectiveness of the measures in the landscape laboratories. Furthermore, she/ he will support the development of specific scenarios for the landscape laboratories regarding options of facilitation of insects (with a focus on wild bees) in cultivation systems in the context of the surrounding landscape. In addition, she/ he will help with the development of field methods for landscape-scale evaluations and apply such methods in the frame of the monitoring of wild bees and ecosystem services (REFA – rapid ecosystem function assessment) with the aim to compile a comprehensive multitemporal data base of the state of the landscape laboratories before and after the measures for facilitation of insects.

Job description:

- Compilation of factors related to agricultural landscape and land use that contribute to the decline of insects and, on that basis, development of guiding principles for facilitation of insects in agricultural landscapes
- Contribution to the definition of regional aims of insect conservation (target species for insect protection and insect-related services in cultivation systems, utilisation in integrated plant protection, support of ecosystem services, etc.)
- Support of the development of methods for monitoring of key indicators at landscape scale
- Coordination and determination of indicator-specific protocols of data collection together with the project partners
- Application of REFA methods (rapid ecosystem function assessment; seed predation, insect predation) in the landscape laboratories
- Collaboration in the mapping of ecological infrastructure of cropland and grassland as well as those parts that are not under agricultural production with respect to habitats and landscape structure in the landscape laboratories
- Baseline monitoring of wild bees as key indicators in the landscape laboratories
- Identification of species of wild bees
- Publishing in international and national scientific journals; oral presentations

Your profile:

- University degree (M.Sc., Univ.-Diploma) in Landscape Ecology, Nature Conservation, Geoecology, Agricultural Sciences or a related field
- A Phd in one of these subjects is desirable
- To be interested in questions in the fields of agricultural or environmental sciences is a prerequisite
- Experience with coordination, instruction and conducting of ecological data collection in the field is required
- Good knowledge of and profound experience with identification of wild bees is desirable
- Good knowledge of the concept of ecosystem services is desirable
- Basic knowledge of experimental designs and statistical data analysis, preferably with R, is desirable
- Good knowledge of geographic information systems (e.g. ArcGIS) is required
- Autonomous working style is required
- Good capacity for teamwork and flexibility are required
- Very good knowledge of English (written and spoken) is required
- Driving licence class III (B) is required
- Readiness for frequent travels lasting several days within Germany is required

We offer the possibility to work in an active and stimulating scientific environment on questions of high relevance at the intersection between basic and applied life science and agriculture. As the professional and personal development of our employees is important to us, the Thünen Institute offers a family-friendly environment, flexible working hours and the possibility for further training and qualification.

The employment is governed by the Wage Agreement for Public Services (TVöD-Bund). The payment of remuneration is carried out according to tariff-category 13 TVöD. A part time position is also possible.

The Thünen Institute promotes the professional equality of women and men and is thus especially interested in applications from women.

Severely disabled applicants with equal qualification will be given particular consideration. Only a minimum physical aptitude is expected from them.

Please contact Prof. Dr. Jens Dauber (phone 0531 596-2501) or Dr. Jan Thiele (phone 0531 596-2586) for enquiries about the position.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, addresses of two personal references and copies of relevant certificates. Electronic submission is preferred. All application material must be compiled in one single pdf-document and submitted with **reference „18-252-BD“** not later than **December 17 2018** to bd@thuenen.de, Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut Institut für Biodiversität, Prof. Dr. Jens Dauber Bundesallee 65, 38116 Braunschweig, Germany