

**PhD-Position: Dept. of Forest Genetics, BFW, Vienna, Austria**  
**Genetic variation of disease resistance of the Common Ash against the pathogen**  
***Hymenoscyphus pseudoalbidus***

The Department of Forest Genetics at the Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape (BFW) in Vienna (Austria) is inviting applications for a PhD Position to study the genetic variation of disease resistance of common ash against the cause of the European-wide ash dieback, the pathogen *Hymenoscyphus pseudoalbidus*. The PhD candidate will use quantitative- and molecular-genetic approaches to identify disease resistant genotypes, to understand the geographical pattern of resistance, and to select genotypes for breeding programmes. The PhD will work in a joint project between the BFW and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (Department of Forest Entomology, Forest Pathology and Forest Protection).

We look for a highly enthusiastic PhD student with interest in molecular and quantitative genetics, forest pathology and tree breeding, preferably with previous experience in any of these research areas. A high level of self-organization skill is expected. All our projects are highly integrative and require willingness to embrace multiple disciplines within the domain of forest genetics.

Requirements:

- Master in Forestry, Forest or Plant Pathology, Biology, Nature conservation or related sciences
- Fluent spoken and written English
- Basic knowledge of German
- Driving licence
- Ability and willingness for field and nursery work

The PhD contract is for 4 years (30 h/week) and enables the attendance of PhD courses at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences.

We offer an inspiring research environment, including state-of-the art research facilities, extensive supervision and an exciting project with high relevance for nature conservation and forest management.

The Department of Forest Genetics is located in the heart of Vienna, close to Schoenbrunn castle. We are concerned with the analysis of genetic information about forest trees and other organisms living in the forest and the dynamics of genetic processes in forest stands. Environmental stress and forest management issues are also considered. Activities are based on genome research, population genetics and provenance research (gene ecology). The aim is to translate genetic knowledge into measures for biodiversity enhancement, genetically sustainable management of forests, protection and management of genetic resources and promotion of the adaptability and survival of complex forest ecosystems. In addition, the Department deals with breeding possibilities to increase the productivity and yield of tree species from plantations. Research projects are often conducted in close cooperation with other departments, universities, and forest enterprises in Austria and abroad.

How to apply: Send a single pdf including a letter of motivation, a CV with University grades, the names and addresses of two referees, a short page research vision and, if available, copies of research

papers or the Master thesis.

Univ.Prof Dr. Dr. Thomas GEBUREK ([institut2@bfw.gv.at](mailto:institut2@bfw.gv.at))

Department of Forest Genetics

Federal Research and Training Centre for Forest, Natural Hazards and  
Landscape

A-1140 Vienna, Hauptstr. 7

**The position is available from August 2015 and open until filled.**