

2 PhD positions (UNIVERSITÄT ZÜRICH)

Bewerbungsfrist: 25.06.2017

Two PhD positions in plant pollinator- and habitat adaptation

Two PhD positions funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation are available from June 2017 in the group of Prof. Schiestl at the *Department of Systematic and Evolutionary Botany*, University of Zürich, for a period of four years. The positions are to study the ecological and molecular bases of plant adaptation to biotic and abiotic habitat parameters. In one project, reciprocal transplants in natural populations will be conducted to study local adaptation to pollinators, herbivores, and soil in a wild species of Brassica in Southern Italy. In the second project, experimental evolution using fast cycling Brassica plants will be used to investigate real-time adaptation to these habitat parameters. In both projects, the traits modulating adaptations as well as their molecular bases will be studied using selection analysis, phenotyping (including floral volatiles), as well as molecular and bioinformatics tools. You should have a Master degree in any field of biology and a thorough interest in evolutionary biology. Prior experience with plants and/or insects is an advantage. Proficiency in English both orally and written is a must; for the project including field work in Italy, knowledge of Italian and a drivers licence is desirable. The successful candidates will work in an exciting research environment focussing on patterns and process of plant evolution. Our department is located in the botanical gardens and house modern molecular and ecological labs, including greenhouses and climate chambers for plant cultivation. The University of Zürich has a very broad coverage of organismal and molecular biology, and several research groups work on evolutionary topics (www.lifescience-zurich.ch). The city also offers excellent quality of life through cultural programs and infrastructure, as well as an attractive surrounding.

If you are interested in the job, please send me by e-mail (florian.schiestl@systbot.uzh.ch) a letter describing your motivation, C.V., copy of degrees, publications (manuscripts), and e-mail addresses of two academic referees, **by 25st of June 2017**. If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to contact me.