

PhD position (m/f/d) in Animal Ecology at the University of Würzburg, application deadline: 16.06.2024

The Department of Animal Ecology and Tropical Biology at the University of Würzburg offers a

PhD position for 36 months

starting this year (salary: TV-L 65%). We are looking for a highly motivated candidate (m/f/d) with a strong interest in wild bees and hoverflies, the consequences of land-use change and applied conservation.

The project:

The current decline in pollinator diversity requires urgent countermeasures. The aim of this project is to enhance the value of villages as pollinator habitats with a variety of measures, to evaluate the success of these measures, and to develop recommendations for local decision-makers, villagers and practitioners. The project takes place in cooperation with the Rhön Biodiversity Center. Further information: <https://www.dorfbienen.biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de/>

Your tasks:

- Recording, collecting and identifying wild bees and hoverflies in villages around Würzburg and in the Rhön Biosphere Reserve
- Experiments on pollination services and yields of fruits and vegetables in gardens
- Experiments on plant preferences of pollinators, including nectar and pollen analyses
- Mapping of flowering plants, nesting sites and landscape elements
- Statistical analyses and scientific writing
- Creating brochures on pollinator protection and conducting workshops for decision-makers

Your profile:

- University degree (MSc, Diploma) in Ecology, Zoology or similar
- Experience in field work and statistical data analysis (in R)
- Very good scientific writing skills
- Knowledge in the identification of insects and plants
- Knowledge of the use of GIS is advantageous
- Goal-oriented and independent working style
- Very good communication skills and enjoy working in a team
- Driving license
- German language skills are advantageous

We offer:

- Working in a friendly, inspiring and ambitious international team
- The opportunity to initiate concrete measures at the interface between research, agriculture and nature conservation with your own scientific results
- A structured graduate program
- An excellent department infrastructure (<https://www.biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de/en/zoo3/>)

Severely disabled applicants will be given preference if they are otherwise equally qualified. The University of Würzburg aims to increase the proportion of women and is therefore expressly interested in receiving applications from suitably qualified women. Please send your application with a brief description of your research interests and reasons for motivation as well as contact details of two references by June 16, 2024, preferably by email in exactly one pdf document to ingolf.steffan@uni-wuerzburg.de and andrea.holzschuh@uni-wuerzburg.de. The interviews will likely take place on June 24, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Prof. Dr. I. Steffan-Dewenter (Tel. +49 931 3186947) or Prof. Dr. A. Holzschuh (Tel. +49 931 3182380) by email or phone.