

The University of Göttingen, Public Law Foundation, Functional Agrobiodiversity & Agroecology, is offering a

Doctoral Researcher Position (all genders welcome)

within the research project **“Habitat Evaluation and Assessment of Valuable Ecosystem services in Non-crop areas (HEAVEN)”**, funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The position is to be filled **as soon as possible**, ideally by **01.05.2025**. The salary is in accordance with the German public service salary scale (TV-L E13) at 65%, which corresponds to 25,87 working hours per week.

Preserving natural habitats is a key component of biodiversity conservation policies outlined in many international frameworks (e.g., Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity targets, EU’s Biodiversity Strategy for 2023). HEAVEN aims to evaluate the role of non-crop habitats in agricultural landscapes in supporting carabid communities and the associated ecosystem services they provide (i.e., biological control of pests and weeds). This will be achieved through a combination of novel analytical tools (i.e., functional redundancy and ecological network analyses) and laboratory experiments organised in five work packages (WPs). First, we will evaluate the vulnerability of the carabid community to species loss resulting from non-crop habitat loss by measuring functional redundancy (WP1). Second, we will identify the relationship between carabid species and multiple non-crop habitats (i.e., habitat preference) in landscapes with different levels of complexity throughout the year (WP2). Third, we will investigate the link between the nutritional status of carabids in different habitats (i.e., an indicator of resource use) and fitness (i.e., overwintering survival rate, WP3) and ecosystem service provision (WP4). Moreover, we will develop widespread monitoring tools to quantify ecosystem services provided by carabids (WP5).

Your profile

We are seeking a highly motivated and enthusiastic scientist to join our group. Applicants must hold an MSc in ecology, biology, agriculture, or related disciplines. Good knowledge of ecological statistics (using R) and good writing and communication skills are required. Fluency in written and spoken English is expected, while proficiency in German is an advantage. Entomological knowledge, experience in scientific writing and publishing, and GIS skills are desirable. A class B driving license is required for fieldwork.

Your tasks

- Entomological fieldwork (pitfall and overwintering traps, quantification of ecosystem services, common carabid species identification) in agricultural landscapes around Göttingen
- Data analysis
- Publication of research results in scientific journals and presentations at scientific conferences
- Participation in outreach and dissemination activities and contribution to general project tasks

Additional benefits

We offer a 3-year researcher position with the possibility of obtaining a doctorate degree in an innovative project that integrates different tools to investigate agroecological research areas that are typically examined in isolation. The successful candidate will join the Functional Agrobiodiversity & Agroecology Lab in Göttingen, a vibrant university city rich in cultural life. The successful candidate will receive career guidance and the opportunity to develop a research network.

Please submit your application electronically **as a single PDF file** including your motivation letter, CV, two references, and certificates until 20.3.2025 on the application portal of the university using this link: <http://obp.uni-goettingen.de/de-de/OBF/Index/74839> . If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Marco Ferrante (marco.ferrante@uni-goettingen.de), Tel. 0551 39 28276.

The University of Göttingen is an equal opportunities employer and places particular emphasis on fostering career opportunities for women. Qualified women are therefore strongly encouraged to apply in fields in which they are underrepresented. The university has committed itself to being a family-friendly institution and supports their employees in balancing work and family life. The University is particularly committed to the professional participation of severely disabled employees and therefore welcomes applications from severely disabled people. In the case of equal qualifications, applications from people with severe disabilities will be given preference. A disability or equality is to be included in the application in order to protect the interests of the applicant.

Please note: With submission of your application, you accept the processing of your applicant data in terms of Germany’s data-protection law. Further information on the legal basis and data usage is provided in the [Information General Data Protection Regulation \(GDPR\)](#) The documents will be deleted after a holding period of three months.