

The mission of the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) as a nationally and internationally active research institute is to deliver solutions for an ecologically, economically and socially sustainable agriculture – together with society. ZALF is a member of the Leibniz Association and is located in Müncheberg (approx. 35 minutes by regional train from Berlin-Lichtenberg). It also maintains a research station with further locations in Dedelow and Paulinenaue.

The DFG funded project **'The ecological role of silicon in semi-arid rangelands: from the greenhouse to the field'** aims to analyze importance of Si in the ecology of semi-arid rangelands. The project is a cooperation of the Silicon Biogeochemistry Group (ZALF, Dr. J. Schaller) and the EARTHLIFE: Integrative and Desert Ecology Laboratory group (Dr. Ofir Katz, Dead Sea and Arava Science Center, Israel)

We are offering a position temporarily limited for 3 years at our location in Müncheberg as a

Research Associate (f/m/d) (Ref.-No. 79-2021)

Your tasks:

- Set up and manage greenhouse and field experiments cultivating plant species of semi-arid rangelands
- Analyze the influence of soil Si availability on plant growth, foliar Si concentrations and nutrient stoichiometry in a large species set in a Si fertilization greenhouse experiment
- Determine the influence of soil ASi concentrations and foliar Si concentrations on species' drought response in a drought-irrigation greenhouse experiment
- Analyze the influence of foliar Si concentrations on herbivory intensity and tests of the inducibility of Si uptake by herbivory using a model herbivore (greenhouse experiment)
- Test the influence of soil ASi availability and foliar Si concentrations on species' response to drought and herbivory in a field experiment in a semi-arid rangeland

Your qualifications:

- Highly motivated
- Master university degree (or equivalent) in plant science, plant ecology or biogeochemistry
- Strong knowledge in plant ecology, ideally knowledge about effects of silicon on plant physiology and plant ecology
- Strong knowledge in plant cultivation
- Excellent knowledge of spoken and written English
- Excellent communication skills

We offer:

- An inspiring international team
- An interdisciplinary working environment that encourages independence and self-reliance
- Classification according to the collective agreement of the federal states (TV-L) 13 (65%) (including special annual payment)
- A collegial and open-minded working atmosphere in a dynamic research institution

Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF), Eberswalder Straße 84, D-15374 Müncheberg, Germany

Contact of Human resource management: personal@zalf.de

Women are particularly encouraged to apply. Applications from severely disabled persons with equal qualifications are favored. Please send your application preferably by e-mail (one PDF file, max. 5 MB; packed PDF documents, archive files like zip, rar etc. Word documents cannot be processed and therefore cannot be considered!) with the usual documents, in particular CV, proof of qualification and certificates, stating the reference number **79-2021** until **30.11.2021** to: Bewerbungen@zalf.de.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us: **Dr. Jörg Schaller**, Tel. +49 (0) 33432/82-137.
Joerg.Schaller@zalf.de

For cost reasons, application documents or extensive publications can only be returned if an adequately stamped envelope is attached.

If you apply, we collect and process your personal data in accordance with Articles 5 and 6 of the EU GDPR only for the processing of your application and for purposes that result from possible future employment with the ZALF. Your data will be deleted after six months.

You can find further information at: www.zalf.de/en/ueber_uns/Pages/Datenschutzerklaerung.aspx