

Plant Ecology Field Assistant

Beginning June 2019 until End August (- September) 2019; 80% (-100%)

Job Description: The Alexander & Levine Plant Ecology group of the ETH Zurich / Princeton is looking for field assistants. The main task is to help with the data collection of our field experiments in the mountains of Graubünden, which examine the influence of climate change on plant communities. The duties include different aspects of data collection, with the main task being vegetation relevées and functional trait measurements.

In our experiment we face a very intensive data collection period from mid-June to mid-August. For this period, we need two additional field assistants. From the end of May to mid-June, your presence will be sporadically required for training. Office work in September (i.e. typing data) may also be part of the position.

Location: Several days and nights per week will be spent in the mountains (Chur & Laax), and sporadically at the ETH Zentrum in Zurich.

Qualifications: Applicants should have a background in ecology, biology, environmental sciences or other related fields. Excellent knowledge of the Swiss flora and experience in vegetation surveys are required. Scientific thinking, ecological understanding, efficiency, accuracy, consistency, and reliability are essential parts of your data collection philosophy. You are skilled in organization and good at keeping track of details. You are familiar with finding strategies to increase your data-collection speed, without compromising the data quality. You love to work outdoors in all weather conditions and enjoy work that can sometimes be strenuous (e.g., hiking to reach field sites at high elevation, kneeling down several hours per day) and involve long working days in the field. You are prepared to be flexible with work schedules, which often depend on the weather. A valid driving license is a plus, but not necessary. A good team spirit is important for this job. Working language is English and German.

Your application should be in English, include a short cover letter, CV, and contact information of one referee. Please send the application, and address any requests for further information, via email to marc-jacques.maechler@env.ethz.ch. Feel free to call 0797679783 for questions. Applications will be reviewed from now on with decisions made as soon as possible. The planned start for this research assistant position is end of May for a couple of days of training.

For more Information about our project:

<https://www.srf.ch/news/regional/graubuenden/der-enzian-koennte-seltener-werden>

