

ADELI thesis V1-MD-19/08/2021

Re : Scouting for a Ph.D. student crop sciences

Dear colleagues,

At Cirad in Montpellier (Umr AGAP Institut, PHENOMEN Team) we are scouting for good candidates for a 3-year Ph.D. research project that will start in January 2022. AGAP provides for a stimulating, multi-disciplinary research environment that covers crop research from molecular genetics to agronomic scale.

The thesis will be embedded in (and funded by) ADELI, a multi-partner French research project on developing agri-photovoltaic systems for crops (this thesis: irrigated rice in the Camargue region). Thus, rice grown under the partial shade of solar panels.

The thesis will address ecophysiological questions related to rice productivity under shades, physiological acclimation (including photosynthesis) and microclimate. Research work includes a 2-year summer field experiment, a phytotron experiment, and modelling. Microclimate monitoring and simulation is an important component, including the physics of heat balance. The student will be supervised by Michael Dingkuhn and Denis Fabre, assisted by IT and modelling specialists.

The Ph.D. position is not yet advertised by we are scouting early on for candidates that would ideally have a good understanding of ecophysiological processes (carbon assimilation, developmental processes, crop-climate interactions, yield formation), basic understanding of the physics and math involved, and exposure to modelling. The candidate should be ready to participate in the development of models for crop microclimate and crop interactions. Good English writing and oral skills are essential, and French communication skills will be an advantage. A drivers license will be essential as the field experiments are located about 110 km from Cirad HQ.

The successful candidate will receive a full scholarship for 3 years according to French national standards.

Kindly forward this message to any potentially interested parties and let us know if you can think of suitable candidates.

Best regards

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