



One (1) PhD Student Position

[Ref # ORZ-0675]

The Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB-FORTH www.imbb.forth.gr), under the European Program HORIZON-CL6-2023-FARM2FORK-01, entitled «*Next Generation Biopesticides for the control of the most "difficult-to-manage" pests and pathogens in fruits and vegetables*» short name "*NextGenBioPest*", awarded to IMBB, invites applications for one motivated PhD Student Position

Info about the project:

Plant pests and pathogens damage agricultural production and endanger food security. Their control relies heavily on the use of synthetic insecticides, leading to a negative environmental impact. Developing new methods for pest and pathogen control is therefore essential to safeguard human health and meet the challenge of increasing crop yields, while reducing the use of chemical pesticides. The overarching objective of the **NextGenBioPest** project is to meet this need by delivering novel and improved products, methods, and practices for the rational control of the most difficult-to-manage arthropod pests and pathogens, with substantially reduced pesticide use.

Job Description: The successful applicant will undertake part of the discovery of a new tool kit for Plant Protection that will include diagnostics for pest and pathogen identification and incrimination and will develop methods to augment their performance in the field. They should also be adaptable and able to work with a range of people in a multicultural environment. Excellent knowledge of English is required.

Required qualifications:

- BSc in Agriculture, Crop Production
- MSc in Sustainable Agricultural Production and Environmental Management
- PhD student in Entomology
- Excellent oral and written skills in English language (Advanced Level certificate in English)

Desired qualifications:

- Working experience in insect biology and ecology, with an understanding of the life cycles, behavior, and ecological interactions of insect pests, particularly in agricultural contexts.
- Knowledge and research experience focused on fruit flies (Tephritidae), including their life history traits, and management practices.
- Experience in the mechanisms of cold tolerance and dormancy in insect pests, including the ability to conduct experiments to assess how temperature influences survival and behavior.
- Experience in conducting field trials and experiments to evaluate the efficacy of attractants, including designing studies, collecting data, and analyzing results.
- Scientific conference participation



	Evaluation criteria	Maximum score
1.	B.Sc. degree grade (Score points = grade x 1)	10
2.	M.Sc. degree grade (Score points = grade x 1)	10
3.	Oral and written skills in the English language (B1 = 2 points, B2 = 5 points, C1 = 7 points, C2 = 10 points)	10
4.	PhD student	Yes/no
5.	Working experience in insect biology and ecology, with an understanding of the life cycles, behavior, and ecological interactions of insect pests, particularly in agricultural contexts. 12-24 months = 5 points, 24-48 months = 10 points, >49 months = 15 points)	15
6.	Knowledge and research experience focused on fruit flies (Tephritidae), including their identification, life history traits, and management practices. (12-24 months = 5 points, 24-36 months = 10 points, >36 months = 15 points)	15
7.	Experience with the mechanisms of cold tolerance and dormancy in insect pests, including the ability to conduct experiments to assess how temperature influences survival and behavior. (12-36 months = 5 points, >36 months = 10 points)	10
8.	Experience in conducting field trials and experiments to evaluate the efficacy of attractants, including designing studies, collecting data, and analyzing results (12-24 months = 10 points, 24-36 months = 15 points, >36 months = 20 points)	20
9.	Scientific conference participation (1-5 conferences = 5 points, 5-10 conferences = 10 points)	10
Total score		100

Contract Duration: 12 months with the possibility of extension according to the project needs

Total budget: scholarship 900 euro/month

Envisaged starting date: 1st of November 2024

Application submission: Interested applicants should submit their application electronically by **October 06, 2024**.

The application should consist of:

1. Application Form (see below)
2. CV
3. Brief statement of purpose
4. Scanned copies of academic titles
5. Scanned copies proving all the qualifications

Submission of applications: orz0675@imbb.forth.gr

Evaluation procedure

Applications will be evaluated by a three-member evaluation committee. In case of interview procedure, applicants will be invited to participate in person or teleconference.

In case of titles and qualifications awarded by foreign Higher Education Institutions, the provisions of the Law 55/2023 (article 36) and 4957/2022 (article 304) are implemented.

The results of the selection will be announced on the website of IMBB-FORTH. Applicants have the right to appeal the selection decision, by addressing their written objection to the IMBB secretariat within five days since the results announcement on the web. Objections are submitted in one of the following ways: in person, by an authorized person, by post, by courier. They also have the right to access (a) the files of the applicants as well as (b) the table of applicants' scores (ranking of applicants results). All the above information related to the selection procedure will be available at the secretariat of IMBB-FORTH in line with the Hellenic Data Protection Authority. Access to personal data of co- applicants shall be limited to personal data (and relevant data) and supporting documents which have been the basis of the evaluation of the applicants for the specific post(s). Prior to the announcement of the personal data and/or documents of the co- applicants to the applicant, FORTH will inform the data subjects in an appropriate way.

The selected applicants will be notified personally regarding the success of his/her application and will be requested to submit certified copies of his/her degrees. If the submitted documents do not agree with the original application, the applicant will be dismissed.

GDPR Disclaimer

FORTH is compliant with all legal procedures for the processing of personal data as defined by the Regulation EU/2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data. FORTH processes the personal data and relevant supporting documents that applicants have submitted. Processing of that data is carried out exclusively for the needs and purposes of this specific call. Such data shall not be transmitted to or communicated to any third party unless required by law.

FORTH retains the above data up to the announcement of the final results of the call, unless further process and reservation is required by law or for purposes of exercise, enforcement, prosecution of certain one's legitimate legal rights' as defined in the Regulation EU/2016/679 and/or in national law. Under the Regulation EU/2016/679, applicants have the rights to be informed about their personal data, access to, rectification and erasure, restrictions of process and objection to as provided by applicable regulation and national laws. Applicants have the right to file a complaint to the national Data Protection Authority. For any further information regarding exercise of personal data protection rights, applicants may contact the Data Protection Officer at FORTH at dpo@admin.forth.gr.

Applicants have the right to withdraw your application and consent for the processing of personal data at any time. In this case, FORTH shall destroy such documents and/or supporting documents submitted and shall delete the related personal data.

APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____
Surname: _____
Date of birth (dd/mm/yy): _____
Address: _____
Telephone number: _____
Email address: _____

TO
FOUNDATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (FORTH)
INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

Hereby I submit my application for the position:

In the framework of the project: _____

Position code [Ref #] _____

Submitted with this application:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

I certify that:

- A) I accept the terms and conditions of the job announcement
- B) I possess all the necessary certificates and documents and I can present them in their original form to the committee without any delay if I am asked to do so
- C) I am able to complete the project within the foreseen time -frame
- D) all the information given in the framework of this application are accurate and true.

Date: _____

Applicant name

(signature)