

Post-doctoral position in chemical ecology of plant-insect interactions

A full-time position is opening in Agriodor's chemical and behavioural ecology team at Biopôle (Rennes, France), from February 2023 until the end of December 2025 (36 months).

Through a research project the candidate will integrate a dynamic team to develop research on alternative methods to control Thrips in a greenhouse setting.

Due to a rapid evolution regarding the European regulation of the use of phytosanitary products in crop protection against pest insects, it is urgent to develop alternative methods. With the prohibition of phytosanitary products, Thrips profit from an absence of protection and cause thus increasing damages in greenhouses.

The research project "Healthi2" funded by FranceAgriMer Casdar program aims to develop alternative methods based on semiochemicals to control Thrips. Based on former and current research led on plant-insect interactions at Agriodor, the candidate will develop its own research on this topic, with an emphasis on the applied dimension.

In this context, the selected candidate will identify volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that are repellent to Thrips in the laboratory, and will design experiments in a greenhouse setting to confirm the repellent effect.

Mission

Several techniques commonly used in behavioural ecology and chemical ecology approaches will be used to lead this research, including:

- Olfactometer bioassays
- Formulation of VOCs and evaluation of release kinetics

Candidates must

- Hold a PhD in Chemical Ecology or other related area
- Have a strong interest in entomology and pest control
- Demonstrate a significant expertise in chemical and behavioural ecology
- Have good communication skills and autonomy in writing papers and reports in English

Created in 2019, Agriodor is an AgriTech startup. Agriodor valorises an INRAE patent. Agriodor develops and offers biocontrol solutions against crop pests based on semiochemicals (allelochemicals). The products developed are revolutionary biocontrol solutions to replace insecticides with environmentally friendly methods by manipulating the behaviour of insect pests in the fields. Agriodor has an independent research laboratory in Rennes, hosted in Biopôle, a recently built facility including well-equipped laboratories. A diversity of VOCs sampling and behavioural testing materials are available

in the laboratory. This laboratory hosts a young and dynamic team working on research projects related to similar scientific problems.

Applications :

Position : CDD 36 months

Place : Rennes, France

Salary : According to experience

CV and motivation letter : rh@agriodor.com

The application deadline is **November 30th 2022** for a position in **February 2023**.