The department of Terrestrial Ecology at NIOO-KNAW offers a position for a

**Post-Doc: Aboveground – Belowground interactions**

**Vacancy number PostDoc-TE-016046**

**Project description**

The post-doc will study with a team of researchers how plant-mediated changes in soil communities can influence plant growth, plant chemistry and aboveground plant-insect interactions. Soils house an overwhelming abundance and diversity of (micro) organisms. The local composition and abundance of these organisms depends greatly on the identity of the plant that is growing in the soil. The performance of plants, in turn, is determined by interactions with soil organisms. Hence, via their specific effects on soil organisms, plants can influence the growth of other plants that grow later in the same soil.

We study the impact of such soil-borne 'legacy effects' on plants and aboveground insects in natural grasslands with the ultimate aim to use soil legacies to restore natural grasslands on former arable fields.

We are looking for an (experienced) Post-doc that will study when, how, and at what temporal and spatial scales plant-soil legacy effects influence aboveground plant-insect interactions. Experimental approaches will include reciprocal soil and plant transplantations in grasslands, field experiments, and microcosm experiments in greenhouses.

**Funding**

The project is funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO VICI)

**Requirements**

- PhD in ecology, entomology or aboveground-belowground interactions.
- Strong motivation, enthusiasm, ability to work independently
- Experience with plant-soil, and/or plant-insect interactions demonstrated in scientific publications
- Good communicative skills (fluency in English required) and good statistical knowledge.
- Proven affinity with ecological research and ecological questions
- Good collaborative skills
Experience with project management, proposal writing and supervision of (PhD) students is considered advantageous.

Appointment

The position is a temporary full time (38 hours/week) appointment, for a period of two years.

Salary

Salary depends on training and work experience. The gross salary starts at € 3.044,00 (scale 10.4) per month to the maximum gross monthly salary of a full-time appointment at € 3.997,00 (scale 10.12) per month, Collective Agreement for Dutch Universities (CAO Nederlandse Universiteiten), excluding 8% holiday pay and a year-end bonus. We offer an extensive package of fringe benefits.

Information

Additional information about this vacancy is available upon request from Dr. T.Martijn Bezemer (tel. 0317-47 3607, e-mail: m.bezemer@nioo.knaw.nl).

Applications

Please send your application including motivation letter, complete curriculum vitae with publication list, the names of at least two referees, and the vacancy number to: vacature@nioo.knaw.nl. The closing date for the application is August 31, 2016.

The Netherlands Institute of Ecology (NIOO) is a top research institute of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW). NIOO-KNAW focuses on fundamental and strategic research into individual organisms, populations, ecological communities and ecosystems. The mission is to carry out excellent research in ecology.

Functie:
Postdoc

Bron-URL: https://nioo.knaw.nl/nl/node/7452

Links
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