



## **Graduate position on ash dieback at BOKU Vienna, Austria**

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, BOKU (Department of Forest and Soil Sciences; Institute of Forest Entomology, Forest Pathology and Forest Protection) in Austria is offering a 2- to 3-year PhD or post-doc position to study aspects of ash dieback, a serious disease of common ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and other *Fraxinus* spp caused by the invasive alien ascomycete fungus *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*.

The project aims at improving knowledge on the effect of admixed tree species on the intensity of ash dieback on common ash. The research will be conducted in three field experiments established in 2021 and 2022 where ash trees (reproductive material with putative higher disease resistance) have been planted in blocks (6 x 6 plants), purely and in equal mixture with various other tree species (24 in total). Another aim is to evaluate the susceptibility of various ash species and genotypes of common ash to ash dieback in existing field experiments.

We are looking for a candidate who has strong interest (and possibly already experience) in field and laboratory experimental work within forest pathology, in statistical analysis of data and is passionate in writing. A MSc degree (or/and PhD) in Phytopathology, Forestry, Biology, Mycology, Ecology or related fields is desired. Furthermore, interest in molecular work, knowledge in statistics (e.g. using R) and excellent writing and communication skills would be an advantage.

The project will be conducted in Vienna, one of the most-livable cities worldwide. BOKU Vienna has about 12,000 students with focus on life sciences. The institute deals with various entomological, forest pathological and mycological topics in forest ecosystems, with numerous PhDs, Postdocs and research staff. Gross salary for 2022 in the case of a PhD position is 2,294 EUR (30 hrs/week, 14 times per year, plus inflation adjustment each year) and for a post-doc position 3,046 EUR (30 hrs/week, 14 times per year, plus inflation adjustment each year).

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please send a CV, if available a list of publications, a letter of motivation and contacts of two references to Thomas Kirisits, [thomas.kirisits@boku.ac.at](mailto:thomas.kirisits@boku.ac.at). In case you have any questions do not hesitate to send an e-mail.

Univ.Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Thomas Kirisits  
Institute of Forest Entomology, Forest Pathology and Forest Protection (IFFF)  
Department of Forest and Soil Sciences (WABO)  
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), Austria  
E-Mail: [thomas.kirisits@boku.ac.at](mailto:thomas.kirisits@boku.ac.at)  
Phone: 0043 1 47654-91601