

Postdoc in Plant Ecophysiology and UAV Thermal Imagery

The Plant Ecology Research Laboratory PERL in the Institute of Environmental Engineering at EPFL (Lausanne, Switzerland) is offering a 24-months (potentially renewable for another 24 months) postdoc position in plant ecophysiology and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) thermal imagery starting in September 2021 or as soon as possible thereafter.

PERL studies the impact of plant biodiversity loss on ecosystem functions and services and the physiological processes involved in plant responses to climatic stress. The postdoc will work closely with collaborators from EPFL and from the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape (WSL) on improving our understanding of heat, vapor pressure deficit, and drought impacts on tree physiological processes, including canopy temperature regulation and gas exchange. The work's overall objective will be to unravel how forest structure and tree species composition modulate canopy-level temperature regulation and gas exchange during extreme climatic events. The work will be conducted in several networks of permanent stands in natural and mature forests in Switzerland and other European countries. The postdoc will have access to state-of-the-art ecophysiological equipment and a UAV equipped with an infra-red thermal camera. The position can also involve mentoring of graduate and undergraduate students.

The applicant must have a Ph.D. with expertise in plant physiology, ecophysiology, remote sensing, thermal imaging, ecological modeling, or related fields. Salary is following the ETH Domain salary system. To apply, please send a CV, list of publications, a brief description of research accomplishments and future goals, and two letters of reference to charlotte.grossiord@epfl.ch. We will start looking at applications after April 1st, 2021.

The Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) is one of the most dynamic university campuses in Europe and ranks among the top 20 universities worldwide. The EPFL employs 6,000 people supporting the three main missions of the institutions: education, research and innovation. The EPFL campus offers an exceptional working environment at the heart of a community of 16,000 people, including over 10,000 students and 3,500 researchers from 120 different countries.