



## Postdoctoral and graduate MSc positions available in plant-pollinator interactions

### Positions:

Two postdoctoral positions and one graduate MSc position are currently available to study the establishment and optimization of diffuse mutualisms in plant-insect interactions. The positions are part of a Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP)-funded project involving the laboratories of [Christina Grozinger](#) (Pennsylvania State University, USA), [Benjamin Risse](#) (Münster University, Germany) and [Adrien Sicard](#) (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Uppsala, Sweden). The project aims to use an innovative approach combining ecological genetics, computer vision and pollinator behavioral ecology to identify the mechanisms mediating plant-pollinator networks in generalist pollination systems. Frequent research exchanges will support collaboration among the three universities.

The plant developmental genetics and evolution lab at SLU (Sweden) will host the first postdoctoral researcher who will study the mechanisms selected in plants to attract diverse insect species and, thereby, optimize their reproduction. The second postdoctoral fellow and graduate student will join the pollinator health and behavior group led by Christina Grozinger at Penn State's Center for Pollinator Research (USA) to investigate the foraging preferences of honey bees, orchard bees, and leafcutting bees, and how these foraging preferences are shaped by competitive interactions and influence selection of plant traits. The graduate student will also work with Dr. Natalie Boyle to investigate foraging preferences for nesting materials in orchard bees. The positions are fully funded and available from November 2020.

### Qualifications:

For the postdoctoral positions, applicants are required to hold a PhD, preferably in entomology, ecology, genetics, or related topics. The candidates should have proven expertise in plant-pollinator interactions and field studies. Candidates should also have the ability to conduct independent research, take initiatives, and interact with other scientists. Excellent English communication and writing skills are expected.

For the MSc position, applicants should have training in entomology, ecology, and/or animal behavior. Applicants with previous experience in conducting scientific research, demonstrated ability to work independently and with teams, and strong written and oral communication are preferred.

### Applications:

For the graduate position, applications should be submitted to the Penn State Entomology Graduate Program by August 1, 2021 (<https://ento.psu.edu/graduate/prospective/apply>). For the postdoctoral position, applications must contain (1) CV with full publication list, (2) a description of prior experiences and how they relate to the proposed research, (3) contact information of two to three referees. Please send your application to [adrien.sicard@slu.se](mailto:adrien.sicard@slu.se) or [cmgrozinger@psu.edu](mailto:cmgrozinger@psu.edu) before August 1, 2021, with "HSFP Postdoctoral Position" in the subject heading. Informal inquiries are also welcome.

