

The [Swiss Plant Breeding Center](http://www.spbc-plantbreeding.ch) (SPBC) is the newly founded, independent competence and innovation center for plant breeding in Switzerland. Its aim is to strengthen Swiss plant breeding and increase breeding efficiency. Its main tasks are to network the players in breeding and research and to transfer new research results into practical breeding programs. The SPBC provides breeders with technical support, know-how and expertise and plays an active role in the planning and implementation of [innovation projects](#). The center is open to all crop types, cultivation systems and breeding methods and covers a wide range of areas of expertise through network partnerships. The SPBC is part of the [Swiss Plant Breeding Strategy 2050](#) and is supported by federal funds.

The SPBC project team has an open position from the beginning of 2024 or by arrangement for a

Research Associate in Plant Breeding / Molecular Genetics (m/f/d)

Workload: 60 - 80%, Location: 5070 Frick, Switzerland

Your tasks:

- Practical implementation of innovation projects to increase the efficiency of public and private plant breeding programs in Switzerland
- Literature research based on projects and breeders' needs
- Molecular biology laboratory work (primer design, GBS libraries, PCR, qPCR, etc.)
- Evaluation of genetic, metabolic (e.g. MALDI-TOF), phenotypic or imaging data
- Advanced data analysis and cutting-edge statistics (e.g. NIRS calibrations, GWAS, genomic selection)
- Advising Swiss plant breeders on the application of innovations in their programs
- Conducting workshops and needs assessments; communication via website and newsletter
- Support in setting up the SPBC and establishing it in the Swiss plant breeding landscape
- Support with the acquisition of third-party funding

Your profile:

- Degree in plant sciences or a related discipline with a focus on molecular biology, genetics, genomics, biostatistics or plant breeding
- Practical experience in molecular biology, development and application of molecular markers, genomic selection, and/or new genomic techniques (NGT)
- Strong statistical skills, proficiency in the R programming, as well as experience with analysis of big data sets
- Curiosity and high motivation for the development and application of new breeding methods and strategies in practical breeding programs
- Fluent in German and English, French is an advantage
- Experience in project management and quality assurance
- Customer orientation, high social competence and communication skills

What we offer:

- Varied work in a small team in interaction with all stakeholders in plant breeding in Switzerland and the associated research, with national authorities and stakeholders in the value chain
- Opportunity to contribute to the development of plant breeding in Switzerland as a whole
- Close contact with state-of-the-art latest research in plant breeding

Please send your electronic application (incl. letter of motivation, CV, references) in German or English with the subject "**WA.SPBC**" to info@spbc-plantbreeding.ch by 10th December 2023. For further information, please contact Azeddine Si Ammour (CEO of the SPBC) si_ammour@spbc-plantbreeding.ch or Monika Messmer, +41 79 379 16 29.

The development of the SPBC is supported by the FOAG and the SPBC project team, consisting of Monika Messmer (FiBL), Amadeus Zschunke (Sativa Rheinau AG), Karl-Heinz Camp (DSP), Roland Peter (Agroscope) and Bruno Studer (ETH Zurich).