

Within the context of the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded project “Transformative strategy for controlling rice disease in developing countries”** the research group of **Prof. Dr. Wolf B. Frommer** at Heinrich Heine Universität, Düsseldorf, Germany, is offering a

Postdoc position – Rice Blast Resistance (all gender)

Background and responsibilities

Project: Developing rice lines resistant to the blast causing fungus *Magnaporthe grisea*

Rice is the world’s most important staple food and is mainly cultivated by small scale producers in low and middle-income countries. Rice blast, caused by the plant-pathogenic fungus *M. grisea*, causes is one of the most serious diseases affecting rice. Our international team aims to develop rice lines that are resistant to *M. grisea*. The specific project aims at determining the role of nutrition for virulence, for example by exploring whether and how nutrient efflux transporters are hijacked by the pathogen to secure key resources necessary for efficient reproduction. Candidate host genes will be identified, and mutants will be analyzed for resistance.

Qualification profile

- PhD degree in Biology or a related field, with emphasis on molecular biology
- High level of motivation, accuracy and reliability, team spirit and hands-on mentality
- Excellent communication skills in English
- Experience with plant pathogens is advantageous
- Good knowledge of MS Office applications and data analysis software
- Advanced experience with statistics

We offer

The candidate will work in a highly motivated, international environment, embedded in an experienced team of rice researchers from different institutions around the world. The starting date is as soon as possible. The position is full-time with salary and benefits commensurate with a public service position in the state North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany (TV-L E 13, 100 %). The position will be filled by a temporary contract that is limited to the period which is necessary to gain further scientific expertise (such as the preparation for a subsequent qualification period). The limitation of the contract complies to § 2 Abs. 1 WissZeitVG. In areas where women are underrepresented, female applicants will be preferred in case of equal qualification. Applicants with a disability as described in SGB IX (§ 2 Abs. 2, 3) will be preferred in case of equal qualification. Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf is one of the younger higher education institutions in Germany which was founded in 1965. Today around 35,000 students study at a modern campus under conditions ideally suited to academic life. As a campus university where everything is close together, all buildings including the University Hospital and the specialized libraries are easily reachable.

In areas where women are underrepresented, female applicants will be preferred in case of equal qualification. Applicants with a disability as described in SGB IX (§ 2 Abs. 2, 3) will be preferred in case of equal qualification.

Send application to

If you are interested, please send your application including a CV, names and email addresses of three references, and a one-page motivation letter as a single pdf document to **Prof. Dr. Wolf B. Frommer** (apply_Postdoc_BMGF@hhu.de).