



Center of Plant Systems Biology and Biotechnology
139 Ruski Blvd., Plovdiv 4000, Bulgaria
E-mail: secretary@cpsbb.eu

The Center of Plant Systems Biology and Biotechnology (CPSBB) offers the following position:

Postdoctoral researcher, Department Molecular Stress Physiology

Period: Fixed-term contract of four years

Place: CPSBB Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Apply no later than: January 31, 2023

CPSBB is a leading plant science center located in Plovdiv, Bulgaria (<https://cpsbb.eu/>). CPSBB is looking for a highly motivated and experienced postdoctoral researcher who will work on the Horizon Europe funded project BOOSTER. The aim is to develop innovative and sustainable strategies to create climate resilient and drought tolerant cereals. Two synergistic strategies will be implemented to achieve this goal. Firstly, a new approach will identify genomic variants in regulatory regions functionally associated with drought tolerance. Novel regulatory elements underlying resilience will inform efficient breeding efforts to create new drought tolerant cereal varieties. Secondly, novel seaweed extracts and microbial biostimulants will be developed as an eco-friendly approach for improving drought resilience. The two strategies will be tested in two cereals with different responsiveness to drought: European maize and Ethiopian teff, a cereal with high genetic similarity to the desiccation tolerant species *Eragrostis nindensis*. BOOSTER will improve drought tolerance in both maize and teff, while simultaneously exploring the potential for transferring species-specific drought responsive features. The CPSBB team in particular will focus on developing and characterization of new seaweed biostimulants for improving maize drought tolerance.

Job Requirements:

- PhD in plant genetics, plant molecular biology, or related plant science fields.
- Excellent English is mandatory.
- Knowledge of Bioinformatics and computational skills are highly advantageous.
- Experience with maize is advantageous.
- Candidates are expected to present strong publication record.

Main responsibilities:

- Designing experiments, growing plants in plant growth rooms, greenhouses, and on field.
- Work in a lab (biochemical, genetic, and molecular biology work).
- Writing scientific articles and grant applications.
- Supervising PhD student(s)

We offer

- Very competitive salary, depending on experience and publication record.
- Excellent work environment and career development in an international research institute.
- Funding available from 1st of May 2023

Deadline for application

The application deadline is 31.01.2023. The applicants should send the following documents as a single pdf:

- CV
- Letter of application, mentioning your motivation to apply for this position.
- Reference letter(s) from previous employer(s).

You can apply for this job **no later than the 31st of January 2023** by e-mail to secretary@cpsbb.eu.