



**Position:** Head of Department "Vegetable Breeding"

**Occupation:** Full-time

**Period:** Fixed-term contract, initial contract for 1 year, possibility for extensions for up to 6 years

**Place:** Plovdiv, Bulgaria

**Deadline for application:** 31.08.2023

CPSBB is a new research Center of Excellence located in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. It is established with the financial help of the H2020 Teaming project PlantaSYST, the Bulgarian Government, and Plovdiv Municipality. CPSBB has already positioned itself at the forefront of plant sciences in Bulgaria and South-East Europe. This was achieved by building on the research and technological excellence of two German partners: University of Potsdam and Max Planck Institute of Molecular Plant Physiology, Potsdam-Golm.

Department "Vegetable Breeding" is working very closely with CPSBB's partner Maritsa Vegetable Crops Research Institute (MVCRI), Plovdiv. It disposes of valuable vegetable Solanaceae germplasm, which is thoroughly studied by phenotyping and genotyping for resistance to stress factors as well as for important agronomic and biochemical traits. Integrated investigations are carried out with CPSBB partners in the field of genetics, metabolomics and bioinformatics. The initial research program is devoted to the development of commercial tomato and pepper hybrids and requires the expertise of an **experienced vegetable breeder** to contribute to these collaborative efforts. The new head of this department will have the important mission of building on current know-how, resources and infrastructure to sustain its growth in the foreseeable future. A successful candidate is required to and needs expertise in:

- Conventional and molecular breeding. Generate and test new ideas in breeding schemes and methods
- Ability to lead a breeding program with expectations to generate high-quality research outcomes and new breeding products (breeding lines, F1 hybrids, and open-pollinated varieties)
- Proficiency in germplasm enhancement for improving vegetable germplasm and breeding methodologies, including all aspects of conventional and molecular breeding
- Demonstrate an active interest in developing synergistic collaboration with data scientists, software tool developers, molecular diagnostic and genomics teams, plant health researchers and field-testing teams
- Lead the laboratory work and the field trials.
- Provide product characterization descriptor data to market development, sales and marketing teams
- Prepare and submit project proposals and secure third-party funding for the department.



### **Workplace:**

The workplace will be the CPSBB in Plovdiv, Bulgaria ([www.cpsbb.eu](http://www.cpsbb.eu)). Plovdiv is a modern city with a rich history. It is one of the oldest cities in Europe, established in the 6th millennium BCE. Currently, Plovdiv is one of Bulgaria's academic and industrial centers, home to six Bulgarian universities and several research institutions. Plovdiv is also rich in cultural life and entertainment for young people. The European Commission declared Plovdiv the European Capital of Culture for 2019. CPSBB is an equal-opportunity employer.

### **Required Qualifications:**

- Ph.D. in plant breeding (or biotechnology, genetics) with at least five years of relevant experience in Plant Breeding or Quantitative Genetics or Population Genetics
- Demonstrated experience as a plant breeder, and author of F1 or open-pollinated hybrids; experienced in genetics, statistical analysis, experimental design and molecular marker applications
- Prior experience in mentoring of MS, Doctoral and Postdoc researchers in the field of plant breeding and genetics.

### **We offer:**

- Gross salary (3583 – 5769 EUR), depending on the candidate's CV, publication record, and funding ID.
- Excellent working conditions and a supportive team, including dedicated technician and PhD students.
- Fast-growing scientific environment. Opportunity to build and develop. Career development in an international research institute
- Excellent infrastructure, including a dedicated laboratory, plant growth rooms, and greenhouses on a brand-new campus.
- A very competitive remuneration package for Bulgaria.
- Funding is available immediately.

### **Interested applicants should send the following documents:**

- CV
- Letter of application, mentioning the position you are applying for and the motivation to apply
- A business plan for the development of the department in the next 5 years, including a research plan and strategies to attract third-party funding.
- List of three references from high-profile scientists, including their names, affiliation and contact details. Former or current employer's references are highly recommended.
- List of publications

You can apply for this job **no later than 31.08.2023** by e-mail at [secretary@cpsbb.eu](mailto:secretary@cpsbb.eu)