

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Faculty of Natural Sciences I, Institute of Biology offers the following position with Leipzig as job location and a preferred starting date of 1 December 2022:

**Postdoctoral Researcher (f-m-d)**  
**‘Phenology, traits and plant-pollinator interactions’**

Full-time: 100%

The position is limited to two years. The salary will be determined up to pay grade 13 TV-L depending on the assigned tasks and personal qualifications.

The position is affiliated to the Spatial Interaction Ecology research group of Prof. Tiffany Knight, located at the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research Halle-Jena-Leipzig (iDiv) in Leipzig, Germany. The working language in the group is English. The position is part of a collaborative network of scientists in Halle, Leipzig and Jena that aim to understand the influences of trait matching and phenological overlap on the structure of plant-pollinator interactions and on plant reproductive success. Collaborative partners include Prof. Isabell Hensen, Prof. Robert Paxton, Prof. Christine Römermann, Dr. Oliver Schweiger, and Dr. Martin Freiberg.

**Requirements/ expected profile:**

- Scientific university degree in biology, ecology or a similar field
- PhD degree in Biology, Ecology, or similar discipline
- Knowledge on pollination ecology and functional trait ecology are important
- Experience analyzing data with R
- Experience with greenhouse experiments is desirable
- Experience with insect identification is desirable
- Fluent in English (spoken and written) with excellent communication skills, knowledge of German is an asset but not required
- Experience working in international teams is an advantage

**Tasks/ job description:**

The goal of this position is to develop a mechanistic understanding of variation among plant species in their phenological changes in response to climate and the consequences of this phenological change on interaction between plants and pollinators and on plant reproductive success. The overarching hypothesis is that plant traits have the ability to predict how the phenology of plants will respond to climate change and the potential consequences this will have for their interactions with animal pollinators and reproductive success. The research will take place at Botanical Gardens within the PhenObs strategic project of iDiv (<https://www.idiv.de/en/phen-obs.html>). The postdoctoral researcher will have the opportunity to work on observational and experimental research which aims to examine the role of flowering times on plant-pollinator interactions and plant reproductive success.



- Independent planning, organization and realization of an observational study examining plant-pollinator interactions and plant reproductive success across the phenology of several focal plant species in botanical gardens in Halle, Leipzig and Jena
- Independent planning, organization and realization of an experimental study in Halle that manipulates plant flowering times and measures responses in pollination and reproductive success
- Statistical evaluation of how plant species, floral traits and experimental treatments influence pollination and reproductive responses variables
- Preparation of manuscripts for publication of results in international journals
- Participation in mentoring of interns, Bachelor and/or Master students at MLU and iDiv
- Be an active and engaged member of the scientific community at MLU and iDiv and affiliated institutions (e.g., attend seminars, discussions, events)

Priority will be given to applicants with severe disability and with equal qualifications. Women are strongly encouraged to submit their applications.

For any queries please contact Tiffany Knight, E-mail: [tiffany.knight@idiv.de](mailto:tiffany.knight@idiv.de).

Applications should consist of a single .pdf file including (i) a letter of interest, (ii) a brief overview of the skills and experiences that the candidate has that could be applied to this topic (1 page), (iii) curriculum vitae, and (iii) the names and email addresses of two individuals who could provide an evaluation of the candidate upon request. Please submit your full application dossier only in English and in electronic form with registration number 5-8642/22-D in the subject line until 31 August 2022 to **anne-kathrin.thomas@idiv.de**. The interviews are likely to be held during the middle of September 2022.

The announcement takes place pending any possible budget restrictions. Application expenses cannot be reimbursed by the Martin Luther University.