



\*\*\* PhD Position: Evolutionary Quantitative Genetics \*\*\*

A PhD position is available in the Molecular Ecology Research Group of the Institute for Biology at the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, in Halle (Saale), Germany (<http://www.mol-ecol.uni-halle.de/>).

The project focuses on applicability of marker-assisted selection in bumblebee breeding. The main topic will be to derive and incorporate genomic marker information (microsatellites and SNPs) for disease resistance into breeding programs. The efficiency of marker-assisted selection will be tested when markers are used in one parent only (queens vs. males) or in both on traits that are expressed in individual workers as well as on the colony level. Marker-assisted selection should be compared to phenotypic selection, both at the individual and the colony level.

We are looking for a highly motivated student having a Master's degree or equivalent in the relevant field. He/she should work well both as a member of the group and independently. Prior laboratory experience is required, and skills in handling and maintaining social insect colonies as well as knowledge of statistical analyses are preferred. Applicants should have a broad biological background, with special emphasis in the fields of quantitative genetics and evolutionary biology. Working and teaching language is English.

To apply, please send letter of motivation including research interests, a C.V., and contact details for two or three references by e-mail ([lattorff@zoologie.uni-halle.de](mailto:lattorff@zoologie.uni-halle.de)). The position is open until filled, but for full consideration, apply by October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The position is fix term for three years (~1,000 €/month). The preferred starting date is January, 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.

Halle hosts many excellent scientific institutions such as Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), 3 Max-Planck Institutes and the Leibnitz Institute for Plant Biochemistry (IPB). Halle is the largest city of Sachsen-Anhalt with a good infrastructure, hosting 2 universities. Due to the high number of students Halle has a rich choice of social, cultural and sporting facilities (see [www.halle.de](http://www.halle.de)).

For further information regarding the group and/or the project please contact

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