

## PhD student in Stable Isotope Physiology 100%, start in early 2018

The Physiological Plant Ecology group at the Department of Environmental Sciences of the University of Basel investigates the ecophysiological processes in plants that determine the fluxes of water, nitrogen and carbon in natural and agricultural ecosystems. The goals of our research are to understand how plants operate in the context of their environment and to reveal how plants shape the functioning of terrestrial ecosystems. The open position is within the ERC project HYDROCARB, where we seek to determine the potential of stable hydrogen isotope ratios ( $\delta^2\text{H}$  values) to assess the carbon metabolism in plants. Such a new application of  $\delta^2\text{H}$  values would be highly relevant to address important scientific questions that range from global change ecology, plant breeding to paleohydrology.

### **Your tasks:**

The key objective of the advertised PhD project is to perform experiments with different vascular plant species under controlled environmental conditions to identify the precise biochemical processes with respect to a plants carbohydrate metabolism that shape the  $\delta^2\text{H}$  values of different plant compounds.

### **Your profile:**

We are looking for a dynamic, reliable and motivated student with M.Sc./Diploma in biology, biochemistry, organic geochemistry or related disciplines. Strong interest in process-oriented research in plant physiology and biochemistry and hands-on experiences with analytical instruments (stable isotope mass spectrometers) are beneficial. Teamwork within the group and project partners requires spoken and written English language skills.

### **We offer:**

The research will be carried out within a 3.5-year project, starting in early 2018. We offer an interesting position in an international, interdisciplinary research environment at the University of Basel. Salary and social benefits are provided according to University of Basel rules.

### **Application / Contact**

Please send your complete application (CV, letter of motivation, contact information of three references) to Mrs. Maura Ellenberger (maura.ellenberger@unibas.ch). Application deadline is November 15th 2017. Further information can be obtained from Prof. Kahmen (ansgar.kahmen@unibas.ch).

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