

## Researcher position in Applied Chemical Ecology of plant-insect interactions

**A full-time position is opening in Agriodor's chemical and behavioural ecology team at Biopôle (Rennes, France).**

**Through a research project the candidate will integrate a dynamic team to develop research on alternative methods to control major crop pests through olfactory manipulation.**

Due to a rapid evolution regarding the European regulation of the use of phytosanitary products in crop protection against pest insects, it is urgent to develop alternative methods. With the prohibition of phytosanitary products, many insect pests profit from an absence of protection and cause thus increasing damages in the fields and greenhouses.

The researcher will participate on a project program that aims to develop alternative methods based on semiochemicals to control insect pest populations. Based on former and current research led on plant-insect interactions at Agriodor, the candidate will develop its own research on this topic, with an emphasis on the applied dimension.

In this context, the selected candidate will identify volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that have an effect of insect pest in the laboratory, and will design experiments in a greenhouse and field setting to confirm the effect.

### Mission

Several techniques commonly used in behavioural ecology and chemical ecology approaches will be used to lead this research, including:

- Olfactometer bioassays
- Formulation of VOCs and evaluation of release kinetics

### Candidates must

- Hold a PhD in Chemical Ecology or other related area
- Have a strong interest in entomology and pest control
- Demonstrate a significant expertise in chemical and behavioural ecology
- Have good communication skills and autonomy in writing papers and reports in English

Created in 2019, Agriodor is an AgriTech startup. Agriodor valorises an INRAE patent. Agriodor develops and offers biocontrol solutions against crop pests based on semiochemicals (allelochemicals). The products developed are revolutionary biocontrol solutions to replace insecticides with environmentally friendly methods by manipulating the behaviour of insect pests in the fields. Agriodor has an independent research

laboratory in Rennes, hosted in Biopôle, a recently built facility including well-equipped laboratories. A diversity of VOCs sampling and behavioural testing materials are available in the laboratory. This laboratory hosts a young and dynamic team working on research projects related to similar scientific problems.

**Applications :**

Position : Full time researcher

Place : Rennes, France

Salary : According to experience

CV and motivation letter (in English or French): [rh@agriodor.com](mailto:rh@agriodor.com)

The application deadline is **March 31 2023**.