

## Post Doc position in Plant Molecular Biology in Neuchâtel, Switzerland

The Laboratory of Plant Molecular and Cell Biology headed by Prof. Joop Vermeer is recruiting a **Post-Doc**. The position is available from **May 2025**. This SNSF-funded position is for 2 years with the option for an additional year.

**The Vermeerlab investigates** how intercellular communication accommodates the formation of new organs, using lateral root formation as a model. Recently, we have established *Brachypodium distachyon* as a new model to study spatial accommodation responses during lateral root development. The project aims at deciphering the molecular mechanism underlying the dedifferentiation of the endodermis during lateral root formation. Together with a PhD student you will use Cre-Lox-mediated cell labelling, multiphoton microscopy, scRNAseq (in collaboration with Prof. Bert de Rybel, PSB, Ghent) and CRISPR-Cas9 mediated genome engineering. The goal is to better understand the networks that regulate root branching in species with a more complex root system.

**We use and develop** genetic and molecular tools to manipulate signaling in specific cell layers, high-resolution- and live-imaging at multiple scales, transcriptomics, proteomics, histology and plant physiology to understand the regulation of root branching in diverse plant species.

### Requirements:

- PhD degree in Plant molecular/Cell biology (or soon to be obtained)
- At least 1<sup>st</sup> author publication (This includes bioRxiv)
- Willingness to apply for funding
- Proficiency in English (oral and written)
- Interest in supervising Master students
- Previous experience in one or several of the following fields:
  - Molecular / Cell biology
  - Plant development
  - Confocal microscopy and/or histology
  - Plant physiology
  - Statistical analyses and bioinformatics (e.g. using R, Python, Alphafold) is advantageous.

### We offer:

- A supportive work environment
- Fully funded employment with social benefits (2 years + possibility for an additional year)

Located at the Lac de Neuchâtel and with spectacular views over the Alps, the plant sciences at UniNE offer a collaborative and dynamic environment. We are part of the Institute of Biology ([www.unine.ch/biologie](http://www.unine.ch/biologie)), which covers further disciplines such as microbiology, ecology, and evolutionary biology.

Western Switzerland provides a fantastic environment for plant research. Its collegial and diverse research community combined with easy and efficient national and international travel provide exceptional possibilities for collaborations and access to state-of-the-art technical platforms.

For further information, please contact Joop Vermeer via email ([joop.vermeer@unine.ch](mailto:joop.vermeer@unine.ch)). To apply, please send your **letter of motivation**, **CV**, and **names and contact details of two referees** as a **single** file to **[joop.vermeer@unine.ch](mailto:joop.vermeer@unine.ch)**. Reviewing of applications will start from March until the position is filled. Starting dates: negotiable but preferably May 2025.