



Lebensgrundlagen für morgen sichern

Research assistant (f/m/d)

Institut für Traubenzüchtung Geilweilerhof - Location Siebeldingen

Application deadline: 24th April 2026 for the reference number: SIEB-ZR-WA-01-26

The Project

Grapevine breeding contributes to the preservation of the viticultural landscape by producing robust, climate-adapted varieties. New varieties must be resistant to pathogens, pests, and abiotic factors such as heat—while maintaining consistently high wine quality. Relevant breeding traits, particularly viticultural characteristics and resilience to stressors, are recorded in the field—previously through complex visual and manual assessments. This "phenotyping" is a bottleneck in the breeding program, which this project aims to improve by establishing new, sensor-supported, automated, and precise phenotyping methods.

Your tasks

- planning, conducting and evaluating studies on AI-assisted high-throughput phenotyping for the selection of resilience to abiotic and biotic stressors in breeding;
- sensor data acquisition with the PHENOquad in breeding facilities;
- precise reference data acquisition, digital (image annotations) and biological (assessment, laboratory analyses) reference data for the traits of sunburn on grapes, leaf phylloxera, and wood ripening;
- assistance with creation of AI models for the traits of sunburn, leaf phylloxera, and wood ripening;
- validation of the AI models using reference data and testing of the models on new, unknown data sets (e.g., seedlings);
- concept development for implementing the new pipeline into the breeding program;
- publication and presentation of the results at national and international conferences and publications.

You have

- a completed university degree (at least a master's degree, university diploma, or comparable qualification) in agricultural sciences, engineering, or a comparable scientific discipline, preferably with a PhD;
- if possible, experience in phytopathology/viticulture, sensor application, and data analysis;
- excellent viticultural knowledge and contact with viticulture practice are advantageous;
- if possible, experience in method development for phenotyping pipelines;
- interest in innovative digitalization issues and working in interdisciplinary collaborations;
- good written and spoken English skills;
- a Class B (III) driver's license and the willingness to travel for business;
- high motivation, reliable work ethic, and the ability to contribute to a team in a success-oriented and constructive manner.

We offer

- a varied, challenging, and interesting job in an international work environment.
- a fixed-term full-time employment until 30th April 2027 with 39,0 hours per week for a task of limited duration. Various forms of part-time employment are generally possible. The employment contract will be based on the collective agreement for the public service (TVöD).
- remuneration according to pay group E 13 TVöD.
- starting date: at the earliest possible time.

The Julius Kühn Institute (JKI) is an equal opportunities employer. We live a culture of a diverse and cosmopolitan work environment. The JKI is committed to inclusion. Applications from people with disabilities are therefore expressly welcome and given special consideration in the selection process.





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The JKI promotes the reconciliation of work and family life and, since 2021, has been holding the **audit workandfamily** certificate ([audit berufundfamilie](#)). Where possible, we offer flexible working time models to reconcile work and family life. More information can be found [here](#).

The JKI subsidizes the Deutschlandticket for its staff, who can purchase it at a reduced subscription price of €23.28.

More Information

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Applying online

Please apply via the INTERAMT job portal. To do so, click on the "**Online bewerben**" button on the INTERAMT page. The deadline for your application is 24th April 2026.

Please note that the language on the INTERAMT portal is German.

An overview of all vacancies at the Julius Kühn Institute can be found [here](#). Alternatively you can simply scan the QR code at the bottom right corner with your mobile device.

To apply, please register with INTERAMT at <https://www.interamt.de/koop/app/registrieren> or use your login if you are already a registered user. If you have any technical problems or questions regarding your registration, please contact INTERAMT directly at +49 (0) 385 4800-140 or by e-mail: kontakt@interamt.de.

Make sure to have uploaded all relevant documents for your online application by the application deadline.

If you have an international degree, please also enclose a certificate evaluation from the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) with your application. If you do not yet have a certificate evaluation, you must apply for one if your application is successful. Further information can be found at <https://zab.kmk.org/en/statement-comparability>.

