

securing tomorrow's resources

Scientist (f/m/d)

Institute for Breeding Research on Agricultural Crops - based in Groß Lüsewitz

Application deadline: 11st July 2026 for reference number: GL-ZL-WA-03-26

The project

CRC TRR341 is a transregional collaborative research centre funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), which is a collaborative effort of scientists across five universities and two research institutions in Germany (<https://trr341.uni-koeln.de/>). There are 24 sub-projects within the consortium, each with a primary goal of dissecting the genetic mechanisms underlying plant adaptation to their environment. In sub-project A02, we aim to isolate the molecular variants underlying leaf size variation in barley. In addition, we want to assess the physiological and agronomic consequences of those molecular variants under different agroecological contexts. In sub-project A02, we also aim to understand the effect of intraspecific competition mediated by leaf size as a functional trait. In a broader sense, the project will explore the genetic basis of competition effects in intraspecific mixtures on plant fitness using barley as a model. The announcement is seeking a female candidate or a male candidate (f/m/d) who will contribute to understanding the molecular mechanisms underlying leaf size variation in barley.

Your responsibilities

- perform fine-mapping of major quantitative trait loci associated with leaf size in barley;
- generate transgenic lines for candidate gene validation;
- evaluation of the cellular profile of leaf primordia and differentiated leaf blade;
- transcriptomics of wild type and mutants plants to identify the gene regulatory network involved in leaf size variation;
- apply molecular biology to validate the regulatory networks;
- evaluate molecular variants of leaf size under different environmental conditions;
- analyze and interpret the collected data from the aforementioned experiments;
- prepare scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals and presentations for conferences and meetings.

Your profile

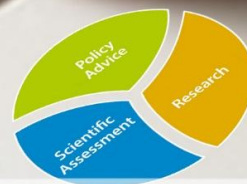
- a completed university degree (at least a master's degree, university diploma, or comparable qualification) in plant biotechnology, plant molecular biology, plant breeding and genetics, or comparable disciplines;
- very good theoretical and practical knowledge on molecular cloning and plant transformation;
- working knowledge of tissue sectioning and microscopy;
- practical experience in intracellular protein localization experiments and evaluating protein-DNA or protein-protein interactions is highly desirable;
- knowledge in RNAseq data analysis is a plus;
- knowledge in statistical analysis using R or willingness to learn R;
- very good organizational and communication skills;
- reliable and independent working style, ability to work in a team and willingness to cooperate, initiative and commitment as well as enthusiasm for scientific work are required;
- excellent spoken and written English.

We offer

- a varied, challenging and interesting job in an international working environment.
- the possibility to prepare a dissertation is given.
- a fixed-term contract with 19,5 hours per week until 31st December 2026 and 25.35 hours from 1st January 2027 until 30th June 2030 for a task of limited duration. The employment contract will be based on the collective agreement for the public service East (TVöD).

The Julius Kühn Institute is an institution directly subordinated to the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).
Address: Julius Kühn-Institut (JKI), Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants, Central Department, Erwin-Baur-Straße 27, 06484 Quedlinburg, Germany. Information on data protection can be found here: <https://www.julius-kuehn.de/en/data-protection-information-for-applicants>.





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- a remuneration according to salary group E 13 TVöD, provided that the successful applicant meets the required qualification and personal specification.
- an entry as early as possible.

The Julius Kühn Institute (JKI) is an equal opportunities employer. We live in 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. The JKI promotes the reconciliation of work and family life and, since 2021, has been holding the audit work and family 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 11st July 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 would have to apply for one upon successful application. For more information, please visit <https://zab.kmk.org/de/zeugnisbewertung>.

