**Two PhD Candidates in Soil Biology**

- **Employment:** 1.0 FTE
- **Gross monthly salary:** € 2,395 - € 3,061
- **Faculty of Science**
- **Required background:** Research University Degree
- **Application deadline:** 31 July 2021

**We are looking for**

You will participate in a large research programme on the restoration of old oak forests, which integrates disciplines comprising plant and soil chemistry, soil microbiology, soil animal biology, forest entomology and the role of large herbivores. During your PhD you will investigate the role of soil microarthropods (e.g. mites and springtails) in healthy and degraded soils and their responses to restoration methods aimed to mitigate acidification and restore the stoichiometry balance in minerals in both soil and plants. The work will be a combination of large- and small-scale field experiments and laboratory experiments. You will have a standard teaching load of 10%. Radboud University will give you the opportunity to extend the 4-year PhD period by another year to be partly engaged in teaching during the whole period, leading up to the acquisition of a university teaching certificate (BKO).

**We ask**

- An MSc degree in Ecology or Animal Ecology.
- A background as an experienced entomologist or soil biologist, and the ability to identify various groups of soil microarthropods (or to quickly master these identification skills).
- Ample understanding of (multivariate) statistics (e.g. using R) is recommended as well as verbal and written proficiency in the English language.
- A driver's licence.

**We are**

Central theme in our department’s research is the understanding of life-history traits and trade-offs. Why do traits trade-off and what is the physiological basis of these trade-offs. We apply this knowledge to understand the ecological processes in nature and to restore ecosystems after anthropogenic disturbance.
Research at the Radboud Institute for Biological and Environmental Sciences (RIBES, formerly known as IWWR) focuses on protecting and restoring ecosystems. RIBES is internationally unique, as its research encompasses three major groups of organisms (microorganisms, plants and animals) and spans nearly all levels of biological organisation. Research at RIBES aims to understand the response of the natural environment to human impact and investigates stress and adaptation processes in severely affected ecosystems. This fundamental research is cross-linked with innovative applications in both industry and society with a focus on mitigating ecosystem degradation and finding solutions to restore the natural environment. RIBES comprises eleven chair groups organised in three clusters (Microbiology, Ecology and Physiology, and Environmental Science).

Radboud University
We want to get the best out of science, others and ourselves. Why? Because this is what the world around us desperately needs. Leading research and education make an indispensable contribution to a healthy, free world with equal opportunities for all. This is what unites the more than 22,000 students and 5,000 employees at Radboud University. And this requires even more talent, collaboration and lifelong learning. You have a part to play!

We offer
- Employment: 1.0 FTE.
- The gross starting salary amounts to €2,395 per month based on a 38-hour working week, and will increase to €3,061 in the fourth year (salary scale P).
- In addition to the salary: an 8% holiday allowance and an 8.3% end-of-year bonus.
- Duration of the contract: you will be appointed for an initial period of 18 months, after which your performance will be evaluated. If the evaluation is positive, the contract will be extended by 2.5 years (4 year contract).
- The intended start date is 1 September 2021.
- You will be able to use our Dual Career and Family Care Services. Our Dual Career and Family Care Officer can assist you with family-related support, help your partner or spouse prepare for the local labour market, provide customized support in their search for employment and help your family settle in Nijmegen.

Additional employment conditions
Work and science require good employment practices. This is reflected in Radboud University’s primary and secondary employment conditions. You can make
arrangements for the best possible work-life balance with flexible working hours, various leave arrangements and working from home. You are also able to compose part of your employment conditions yourself, for example, exchange income for extra leave days and receive a reimbursement for your sports subscription. And of course, we offer a good pension plan. You are given plenty of room and responsibility to develop your talents and realise your ambitions. Therefore, we provide various training and development schemes.

**Would you like more information?**
For more information about this vacancy, please contact:
Prof. H. Siepel, Chair of Animal Ecology
Email: henk.siepel@ru.nl

**Apply directly**
Please address your application to H. Siepel and submit it, using the application button, no later than 31 July 2021, 23:59 Amsterdam Time Zone.

Your application should include the following attachments:
- Letter of motivation.
- CV.

The first round of interviews will be held in the week of 16 or 23 August 2021.

*We drafted this vacancy to find and hire our new colleague ourselves. Recruitment agencies are kindly requested to refrain from responding.*