



**MED - Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development**

**Master's (MSc) scholarship (1 vacancy)**

November 5, 2021

A call for tender is open for (1) Scholarship (Master's - MSc) within the scope of the project "Pine host chemistry and environmental factors driving the epidemiology of the pinewood nematode/ PineChem – Composição química do hospedeiro e fatores ambientais determinantes na epidemiologia do nemátodo da madeira do pinheiro" (ALT20-03-0145-FEDER-029774) (PTDC/ASP-SIL/29774/2017), financed by national funds through FCT/MCTES and co-financed by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through ALENTEJO 2020 ("Programa Operacional Regional do Alentejo") under the following conditions:

**Scientific area:** Ecology, Forestry Science

**Admission requirements:**

MSc in Environmental Engineer, Ecology or Agronomy. The candidate must have proven experience in phytoparasitic nematodes, in particular the pinewood nematode.

As set forth FCT Research Scholarship Regulation No. 950/2019 of December 16, 2019, article 3 and 6, candidates for "**BI**" (**Research Grants**) must comply as a rule condition for the award of the scholarship, the effective inclusion in study cycles leading to the attribution of academic degrees or in courses not leading to an academic degree. Courses that do not confer an academic degree correspond to the courses provided for in subparagraph e) of paragraph 3 of article 4 of Decree-Law No. 74/2006 of 24 March and must be developed in a higher education institution in association with at least one R&D unit, including a course plan in one or several research areas of the unit.

**Workplan:** the workplan is included in some tasks of the project, namely:

Task 3: The objective of this task will be to assess the seasonal variation on the constitutive composition of the host tissues, and its potential interaction with the seasonal patterns and epidemiology of the PWD. Sampling of PWN from wilted trees. Trees with early signs of wilt will be marked, and regular sampling of its tissue will unfold on the next weeks to assess PWN population dynamics.

Task 5 - Bioassays with *B. xylophilus*. To confirm that a particular phytochemical compound gives the pine host resistance to the PWN, the different chemical components should be isolated and then tested in bioassays with different PWN isolates. For this PWN will be inoculated in culture medium where fungus had been grown. Different concentrations of each compound to be tested will be added to replicates, and population parameters will be compared with the ones of controls. Identification of specific biocompounds against the PWN.

**Applicable legislation and regulations:** The granting of the Research Scholarship will be carried out upon the signing of a contract between the University of Évora and the scholarship holder, as set in the template [https://www.fct.pt/apoios/Minuta\\_Contrato\\_Bolsa.docx](https://www.fct.pt/apoios/Minuta_Contrato_Bolsa.docx), pursuant to the Research Scholarship Statute (Law No. 40/2004 of August 18 and Decree-Law No. 123/2019 of August 28) and in accordance with the legislation and Regulation of Research Grants of the Foundation for Science and Technology, IP in force, regulation nº950/2019 of December 16, 2019: <https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamento.phtml.pt> and other applicable rules.

**Place of work:** The work will be developed in the Nematology Lab-MED, of the University of Évora, under the scientific guidance of Professor Manuel M. Mota.

**Duration of the scholarship:** The scholarship will have a duration of 04 months, starting January, 2022.

**Amount of monthly maintenance allowance:** The amount of the scholarship corresponds to € 1 104.64, according to the table of scholarships awarded directly by FCT, I.P. in Portugal (<http://fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>), payments being made monthly, by check or bank transfer.

**Selection methods:** The selection methods to be used will be the following: curriculum evaluation (30%), work and experience in the area (70%)

**Composition of the Selection Jury:**

President: Prof. Doutor Manuel M. Mota

1st member – Profª Doutora Mª Helena Adão

2nd member – Doutor Carlos Gutiérrez-Gutiérrez

1st backup member – Prof. Doutor Fernando Capela e Silva

2<sup>nd</sup> backup member – Profª Doutora Isabel Brito

**Advertising/notification of results:** The final results of the evaluation will be publicized, through an ordered list by final grade obtained posted in a visible place of the NemaLab-MED, Herdade da Mitra; the selected candidate will be notified through email.

To ensure the right of prior hearing of interested parties, the final classification will be announced by any written means to all interested parties.

After communicating the provisional list of results of the evaluation, candidates have a period of 10 working days to express their opinion in a preliminary hearing of interested parties.

**Application deadline and submission of applications:** The tender is open from November 09 to November 23, 2021 and the results of the selection will be published by November 30, 2021.

Applications must be formalized, obligatorily, by sending an application letter with the following documents: *Curriculum Vitae*, certificate of qualifications, 2 recommendation letters and other supporting documents considered relevant.

For the purposes of application, the evidence may be replaced by a statement of honor signed by the candidate, but failure to demonstrate that evidence, in the contracting phase, possession of the required degree on the deadline for application or the non-presentation of proof of enrollment in the study cycle or non-degree course, for scholarships with this component, implies the cancellation of the candidate's application.

Academic degrees obtained in foreign countries require registration by a Portuguese Institution in accordance with Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16 and Ordinance No. 33/2019, of January 25th.

The presentation of the certificate is mandatory for the signing of the contract. More information can be obtained at: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/pt/pagina/recognition?plid=374>

Applications must be sent by email to:

Prof. Manuel Galvão de Melo e Mota  
NemaLab/ mMED, Universidade de Évora  
e-mail: [mmota@uevora.pt](mailto:mmota@uevora.pt)



Cofinanciado por:

