Research Assistant Position in Molecular Plant–Pest Interactions Resilience2pests | CBGP, Madrid, Spain

We are seeking a motivated research assistant to join the Resilience2pests project at the Centre for Plant Biotechnology and Genomics (CBGP), Madrid, Spain.

The project investigates the molecular mechanisms underlying plant responses to pest infestation, with particular emphasis on gene expression and translational regulation. We are looking for a curious and committed candidate interested in developing their research career in plant biology**.** The position offers the possibility of pursuing a PhD within the project.

Funding

This position is funded by the Community of Madrid through the 2025 César Nombela programme for attracting research talent (grant reference: 2025-T1/BIO-36115), within the Resilience2pests project.

Requirements

Applicants must hold a Master's degree in Biology, Biotechnology, Biochemistry or a related discipline. Basic laboratory skills in molecular biology and biochemistry, good organisational skills, and a good command of written and spoken English are required.

Knowledge of statistical analysis and data visualisation, preferably using R, will be valued. Previous experience in plant cultivation, plant–pest interaction assays, RNA extraction and quality assessment, RT-qPCR, polysome profiling, RNA-seq or confocal microscopy would be an asset.

About the position

The successful candidate will contribute to investigating how plants respond to mite infestation, combining experimental approaches with molecular and computational analyses.

Research activities will include plant–mite bioassays to quantify plant damage and assess effects on mite populations, as well as transcriptomic, translational and metabolomic analyses of plant responses. The researcher will also contribute to data analysis, report writing and the presentation and discussion of results.

The position offers training in molecular plant biology and plant–pest interactions. The successful candidate will develop skills in experimental design, hypothesis testing, statistical analysis and critical interpretation of results within the research environment of CBGP.

Salary

€20,000 gross per year.

Expected start date

1 December 2026.

Location

CBGP, Montegancedo Campus, Pozuelo de Alarcón, Madrid, Spain.

Selection process

Applications will be assessed based on academic qualifications, relevant research experience and suitability for the position. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview to discuss their scientific background, technical skills and motivation.

We are committed to equal opportunities and an inclusive working environment. Applications from candidates of all backgrounds who meet the eligibility criteria are welcome.

How to apply

Please send your CV and a brief statement of motivation to Dr Marta-Marina Pérez Alonso at **martamarina.perez@upm.es**, using **"Resilience2pests – Research Assistant position"** as the email subject.

Application deadline

31 October 2026 at 23:59 (Madrid time).