



# Doctoral student in forest ecology Alnarp

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## Southern Swedish Forest Research Centre

SLU is one of the world's top ten universities in biodiversity conservation and soil science, and is ranked #1 in forestry (CWUR). At our centre we carry out research, teaching and dissemination of scientific findings with direct application to the sustainable management of forests. We are a multidisciplinary institution, with global relevance and specialized expertise on issues related to dynamic forest landscapes. We closely collaborate with multiple stakeholders and conduct applied research in forest ecology, silviculture, pathology, policy and planning. We teach bachelor, master's and PhD level courses addressing all of these subject areas.

## Burst, bloom and buzz – Deciphering the interactions between trees and climate on forest ecosystem processes

### Description:

We are looking for a person who, as part of a PhD, will conduct research on the impact of tree species composition, forest density and macro climate on forest understory climate and species communities. We focus especially on the impact of monospecific vs mixed forests. Our emphasis is on understory plants and their associated pollinators, two interdependent species groups with direct implications for forest ecosystem function and services. For this research we will use a macro-climatic gradient spanning 10 degrees Celsius in mean annual temperature, involving field-work from central to northern Europe. This research contributes to filling a major knowledge gap regarding the combined implications on ecosystem functionality of two of the most important drivers of global change, climate and land-use. The successful applicant will have excellent opportunities to work with our international collaborators. One or several short research exchanges with a partner university in Europe is foreseen.

### Qualifications:

You must have a master's degree in biology, forest science or equivalent, with specialization in ecology. You should have a demonstrated interest in terrestrial ecology and in how land-use and climate change affect the functioning of terrestrial ecosystems. Experience in the ecology of forests, pollinators and plants is a merit. Likewise, the ability to identify plant and insect pollinator species is valuable. Focus will be given to your analytical and problem-solving abilities, and your ability to work independently as well as in a team. You should have good demonstrated skills at expressing yourself in English both orally and in writing. The project involves considerable amount of travel in connection to the field-work and a driver's license is therefore required.

Attached to your application should be curriculum vitae, copies of degrees and transcripts of academic records, as well as a link to or copy of your master's thesis and two listed professional references with email addresses and phone numbers. Also attached to your application should be a written motivation or reflection, of a maximum of one A4-page written in English, discussing your personal interest in the topic of this study and in ecology in general.

### Place of work:

Alnarp

### Forms for funding or employment:

Employment (4 years)

## Starting date:

According to agreement.

## Application:

We welcome your application no later than 2020-01-15, use the button below.

A person has basic eligibility for third cycle education if he or she has taken a second cycle qualification or has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 higher education credits at second cycle education. Upper secondary school grades equivalent to English B/English 6 are a basic requirement.

Selection among applicants meeting the requirements is made with reference to written application including curriculum vitae, copies of degrees and transcripts of academic records, one copy of the dissertation for masters or undergraduate degree, a list of at least two references familiar with the applicant's qualifications, certified knowledge of the English language and an interview.

Please observe that applicant/s chosen to participate in an interview shall hand in certified true copies of certificates, diplomas and transcripts from previous studies at an internationally recognized higher education institution (university or university college) and transcripts in connection to the interview. If the applicant is a foreign citizen we require a certified copy of the page in your passport with your personal data and photography.

Read about the PhD education at SLU at [www.slu.se/en/education/postgraduate-studies/](http://www.slu.se/en/education/postgraduate-studies/)

## Academic union representatives:

<https://internat.slu.se/en/my-employment/employee-associations/kontaktpersoner-vid-rekrytering/>

**The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)** develops the understanding and sustainable use and management of biological natural resources. The university ranks well internationally within its subject areas. SLU is a research-intensive university that also offers unique degree programmes in for example rural development and natural resource management, environmental economics, animal science and landscape architecture.

SLU has just over 3,000 employees, 5,000 students and a turnover of SEK 3 billion. The university has invested heavily in a modern, attractive environment on its campuses in Alnarp, Umeå and Uppsala.

[www.slu.se](http://www.slu.se)

SLU is an equal opportunity employer.

### Contact person

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