

# Postdoctoral position in belowground ecology

## How Plant Biodiversity Loss Affects Soil Fungi and Carbon Storage Along a Strong Environmental Gradient

SLU invites applications for the following 2 year post-doctoral position in Ecosystem Ecology, on the topic of How Plant Biodiversity Loss Affects Soil Fungi and Carbon Storage Along a Large Environmental Gradient. The position involves collaboration with researchers based at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences at both Umeå (David Wardle) and Uppsala (Björn Lindahl and Karina Clemmensen). It will focus on understanding how fungal communities change in response to biodiversity loss across island ecosystems differing greatly in ecosystem properties, and how this in turn may impact on soil carbon storage on these islands. There is the expectation that the researcher will be actively involved in the design, fungal community analyses (through molecular sequencing approaches), data analysis, and write-up of this work. This position would be particularly ideal for researchers that have an interest in associations between plant and microbial communities and their impact on ecosystem functioning.

**Duties:** The work will focus on understanding how fungal communities change in response to biodiversity loss across island ecosystems differing greatly in ecosystem properties, and how this in turn may impact on soil carbon storage on these islands. There is the expectation that the researcher will be actively involved in the design, fungal community analyses (through molecular sequencing approaches), data analysis, and write-up of this work. This position would be particularly ideal for researchers that have an interest in associations between plant and microbial communities and their impact on ecosystem functioning.

**Qualifications:** The required qualification for this position is a PhD in Ecology or Microbial Ecology or a related subject, and preferably completed in the previous three years. Prior experience with field-based ecology, molecular analyses of microbial communities, and/or bioinformatics and analysis of microbial community data is seen as highly desirable.

**Place of work:** Umeå

**Form of employment:** Temporary employment 6 months or longer.

Two year position

**Extent:** 100%

**Starting date:** 1 April 2015

**Application:** We welcome your application marked with **Ref no. SLU ua 3472/014**.

Please submit your application to the Registrar of SLU, P.O. Box 7070, SE-750 07 Uppsala, Sweden or [registrator@slu.se](mailto:registrator@slu.se) no later than **November 18, 2014**.

Specific documents attached: Applications for this position should include a curriculum vitae including a full list of publications, a brief description of research interests, and a list of at least two references familiar with the applicant's qualifications and experience.

SLU is an equal opportunity employer.

*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)

*The Faculty of Forest Sciences (S) is responsible for research, teaching, environmental monitoring and assessment as well as outreach and collaboration in the field of forestry, including forest ecosystems and their sustainable use. Together with the other SLU faculties, the S Faculty is also active in the fields of food, production, health, quality of life, environment and water.*

*The majority of the S Faculty's 700 employees and 850 students are based on Campus Umeå, which is shared with Umeå University. The S Faculty houses 13 departments and a large number of collaborative centres.*

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