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## PHD POSITION AVAILABLE TO INVESTIGATE THE ROLE OF SMALL REGULATORY RNAs IN PLANT-MICROBE INTERACTIONS

The Department of Genetics (Prof. Dr. Martin Parniske, [Dr. Arne Weiberg](#)) at the Ludwig-Maximilians University of Munich is offering a PhD position to investigate the role of small regulatory RNAs in plant-microbe interactions.

### AREA OF RESEARCH

Small RNAs direct gene silencing through a mechanism called RNA interference (RNAi). Mobile small RNAs are exchanged between organisms and trigger cross-kingdom RNA silencing during host-microbe interactions. As a virulence strategy, *Botrytis cinerea* produces mobile small RNAs during host plant infection that hijack the host RNAi pathway and silence important plant immunity genes ([Weiberg et al. Science 2013, 342:118-23](#)). We use *B. cinerea* as our main pathogen model system. Understanding molecular aspects that determine cross-kingdom RNAi is the aim of this PhD project. This is of enormous interest for the implementation of RNAi-based crop protection strategies.

### WE OFFER

- The possibility to work on a cutting-edge project using state-of-the-art technology in a highly motivated research team
- A stimulating, diverse and international research environment

### REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Master or Diploma in Life Sciences (Biology, Microbiology, Botany, Agricultural Sciences)
- Experience in Plant Biology, (Small) RNA Biology, Molecular Genetics, knowledge in Bioinformatics is beneficial
- Motivation to solve complex biological problems
- Excellent communication skills (in English)

Complete applications in English should include a CV, a motivation letter, a complete list of publications, a brief statement of research experiences, the addresses of two possible referees, and should be submitted in a single pdf to [a.weiberg@lmu.de](mailto:a.weiberg@lmu.de) not later than 25.11.2016.