



Job Advertisement Agroscope

Research Associate in Agricultural Economics, 80%-time to full-time

Organisation

Agroscope is an innovative research institute for agriculture and nutrition run according to the principles of New Public Management. Agroscope is part of the Swiss Federal Administration, and is attached to the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER. The Farm Management Research Group at the Institute for Sustainability Sciences is responsible for the Swiss Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN), which uses data from over 3000 farms to monitor the income of Swiss farms. Furthermore, the research group develops ideas for increasing the competitiveness of Swiss farms, which nowadays represents a major challenge for the agricultural sector.

Tasks

Your duties will include measuring the performance of agricultural production systems in terms of productivity and efficiency, at both farm and enterprise level. Your work will contribute to a better understanding of the substantial differences in performance observed between farms. Based on your hands-on agricultural experience, you will derive conclusions for both farm managers and policy-makers. Furthermore, you will assess the economic viability of innovative production methods and farm businesses. In addition to elaborating and applying methodologically sound approaches, you will present the results of your research in peer-reviewed publications, the specialist agricultural press, and international and regional academic conferences. Finally, you will be supervising trainees and students, and raising third-party research funds.

Position Requirements and What We Offer

We are looking for an achievement-oriented, communicative personality with a capacity for teamwork. Applicants should hold a PhD or a Master's degree and possess research experience in agricultural economics, farm management, economics, or related fields. A strong background in data analysis, especially econometrics, is essential to ensure the high quality of your research and analysis. Fluent English (written and spoken) is a prerequisite. Good knowledge of German or French would be an asset. Candidates should have demonstrated verbal and written communication skills.

We offer you an interesting research position in a dynamic and dedicated research team. You will enjoy flexible working hours, a staff restaurant and good employee benefits.

Start date: 1st June 2016, or as agreed. The duration of the contract is three years, and includes an option for permanent employment.

Place of Work

The position is in Aadorf, 50 km east of Zurich, Switzerland.

Salary Category

24

Employment Level

80%-time to full-time

Application Address

If the challenge of this position appeals to you and you meet our requirements profile, we look forward to receiving your application on www.stelle.admin.ch (keyword: BW-Stelle). Please note that we cannot consider offers from recruitment agencies.

For further information, please feel free to contact Dr Markus Lips, Head of the Farm Management Research Group [+41 (0)58 480 31 85]; markus.lips@agroscope.admin.ch. Closing date for applications: 20 March 2016