



ILVO's Own Capital is looking for a

Software developer for plant phenotyping systems

Vacancy number

EV/2021/019/P39

Place of employment

Caritasstraat 39 - 9090 Melle

Do you know how to set-up systems to collect, store and exchange data in an efficient manner? Do you know how to extract information from (drone)images? Do you want to use these talents to establish and support on-field plant phenotyping infrastructure? Then you are the person we are looking for.

Job description in brief

The software developer we are looking for will be in charge of the development and maintenance of systems for (semi-)automatic data collection, data processing and data exchange for the ILVO on-field plant phenotyping facilities, including the development of robust systems for quality control. Plant phenotyping covers the description and characterization of plant traits using non-destructive image analysis-based tools. The ILVO phenotyping facilities allow the screening of field plots for aboveground and underground plant development. We combine manual observations, image-based phenotyping from drones and technologies such as electrical resistivity tomography (ERT) to model root water uptake patterns in the soil. Good programming skills are a must; experience with the processing and/or interpretation of drone-captured images and/or geophysical data is a plus. He/she will deliver ready-for use data to colleagues and will interact with experts in plant physiology, plant phenotyping, modelling and geophysics. He/she will also collaborate with (data-)scientists, field technicians and drone operators to develop user-friendly systems.

The position is available at EV-ILVO and is closely linked to the recently funded infrastructure project EMPHASIS-Belgium, coordinated by VIB, but is also meant to support other research projects and breeding activities at ILVO. Contributing to the improvement of crop performance are main aims of ILVO and of EMPHASIS-Belgium. To tackle this challenge, we use novel approaches to identify superior crop varieties and to explain the genetics of agriculturally important traits. We invest in a multidisciplinary approach, from lab to field, by (i) substantially upgrading already available field-based plant phenotyping infrastructures to meet international standards, and (ii) extending an integrated FAIR data management system that is linked to EMPHASIS-Belgium.

Our organisation

Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (ILVO) is a **multidisciplinary research institute** of the Flemish government, with a focus on supporting **sustainable agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and food research**.

Drawing on the 5 important ILVO values - *Positivity, Proactivity, Professionalism, Working Together and Being an Example*, we are steadily growing ILVO as a **socially relevant center of expertise**. We work together within a culture of open, honest discussion and mutual trust.

And ... now you might be able to play a role in this wonderful story!

We employ more than 670 people, about half of which are researchers. Approximately 35% of the personnel works for the Flemish government; the rest is employed by ILVO's Own Capital funding based on project and contract research.

Your Profile

- ✓ We keep the scope of the diploma broad (computer sciences, engineering, mathematics, ...) as the required competences can be acquired in different disciplines but being well acquainted with different programming environments is a requirement. We focus mainly on candidates with a master's degree. Candidates with a Bachelor diploma will also be considered if they can demonstrate relevant work experience and skills.
If you have a foreign diploma, we ask you to obtain equivalence recognition. You can apply for this at NARIC Vlaanderen ([NARIC-Vlaanderen - NARIC-Vlaanderen](#)).
- ✓ We expect at least 2 years of relevant professional experience related to at least two of the aspects below:
 - Software development;
 - Data processing and script development;
 - Automation of both pre-processing and processing steps of drone-acquired images, using for example Metashape or Pix4D and QGIS;
 - Experience with R and Python.
- ✓ You are fluent in English (speaking and writing)
- ✓ You are in possession of a driving license B

Personal competences

- ✓ You like to work in a multidisciplinary way.
- ✓ You can communicate easily with both researchers and technicians.
- ✓ You are a team player, but can also work autonomously.
- ✓ You can think strategically, take initiative and work proactively.

Plus points:

- ✓ Affinity with agricultural research
- ✓ An additional specialization in data management or image analysis where useful knowledge has been built up

Our offer

We offer you a full-time, open-ended contract with a competitive salary based on your degree. You will be recruited in the salary scale A165, A166 or B111 (depending on your diploma). You can make a gross and net calculation of your monthly salary, a holiday bonus and your end-of-year allowance via <https://www.vlaanderen.be/werken-voor-vlaanderen/het-salaris>. Relevant experience can be considered for financial seniority.

Additional: Hospitalization and group (life) insurance, commuting allowance (bicycle – public transport), meal vouchers (7 € /day) and a total of 35 holiday days based on last year's performance (private scheme)

Start: 01/07/2021



How to apply?

You can apply online via "[Jobs - ILVO Vlaanderen](#)" and this at the latest **until 13 may 2021**. If you cannot apply online, you can request the application form via personeel@ilvo.vlaanderen.be.

Candidates found fit (based on CV screening) will be invited for a selection interview on **21 may** (date subject to change). Please include a telephone number and e-mail address where you can be reached during the day and block this date in your agenda.

For more info please contact

Job content:

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Selection procedure:

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