

Master's Thesis Project Opportunity: Plant-Protection

The Robatzek Group at LMU Munich Faculty of Biology is offering an exciting Master's thesis project focused on understanding how bacterial pathogens infect plants and how innovative strategies can be developed to control plant diseases.

A major focus of our research is the bacterial pathogen *Xylella fastidiosa*, which causes severe diseases in economically important crops such as grapevine and olive, including Pierce's Disease and Olive Quick Decline Syndrome.

In collaboration with PrimeTeq UG, a biotechnology start-up company, we have identified a promising treatment agent that inhibits the growth of *X. fastidiosa in vitro*. The aim of this thesis project is to investigate whether this agent is also effective *in planta* by monitoring:

- *X. fastidiosa* colonization
- Systemic spread within the plant
- Disease symptom development
- Plant immune responses

Experiments will be conducted using the model plant *Nicotiana tabacum*.

This project offers hands-on experience in plant-pathogen interaction research applying diagnostic PCR, microscopy analysis as well as patho- and immune-assays within an interdisciplinary and collaborative environment.

Please apply with a short motivation letter, your transcript of records and CV by email to: robatzek@bio.lmu.de