

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

Summer Agroforestry Intern (six-week position)

Responsible to: Dr Colin Tosh (Senior Agroforestry Researcher)

Background and objectives

ORC is seeking an intern to support its work under the Horizon 2020 project AGROMIX: Participatory research for resilient land use in Europe. Wakelyns Agroforestry in Suffolk is one of eight sites across Europe in “virtual experiments” using the Hi-sAFe model will be carried out to understand how climate changes and shock will influence the productivity of the system and how management options could help build its resilience. Field data collection, background research and data entry/analysis will be the focus of internship. In addition, the intern will be asked to curate an archive of past research at this pioneering agroforestry site to make available online for agroforestry practitioners and researchers in the future.



Role-specific duties

- Liaise with supervisors to co-create a risk assessment for field activities over the summer.
- Become familiar with the field measurements required to parameterise the Hi-sAFe agroforestry model.
- Collect multiple tree size and dimensional measurements from several species at the Wakelyns Agroforestry site in Suffolk.
- Collect, send off for analysis, and record characteristics of soil samples from the Wakelyns site following deep soil excavation (excavation will be undertaken by a contractor and organised by Dr Tosh).
- Following deep bore-hole excavation, take measurements of Wakelyns water table depth (excavation will be undertaken by a contractor and organised and supervised by Dr Tosh).
- Undertake literature research on root architecture and maximum root depth of selected tree species present at Wakelyns.
- Using tree size and dimensional data and with assistance from supervisors, undertake statistical non-linear model fits to create the mathematical allometries required for the Hi-sAFe model.
- Give a presentation of findings to the farm manager, ORC staff, and other interested parties at the termination of the research period.
- Curate an archive of past research reports and datasets from Wakelyns Agroforestry to make available as an online resource on the Wakelyns website.

Role-specific responsibilities

- Rapid transfer of field data to electronic form and safe storage of data locally and in a secure cloud backup.
- Timely reporting of findings to supervisors.
- Working independently with minimum interruption to the farmer running the field site.
- Safe working in a farm environment and ensuring those around you can work safely.
- Personal upkeep and maintenance in arranged on-site accommodation for a portion of the research period and timely arrival at field recording locations each day.

Generic responsibilities

- Attend staff and other meetings as requested.
- Undertake training to be able to continue meeting the requirements of this role
- Assist with any other activities related to the focus of the internship, as requested by your line manager.

- Ensure effective communication with your line manager and other ORC research team members (as relevant) is established and maintained
- Ensure compliance to company Health & Safety, GDPR and any other regulatory or policy requirements

Place of work and logistics

The internship will be part field-based at Wakelyns Agroforestry (12-14 working days) and part home-based (16-18 working days) for desk-based literature search, data analysis and resource curating. A laptop will be provided for the six-week period.

The internship will be a paid position with the pay offer based on age and experience. Accommodation will be provided on site and the costs of travel to/from Wakelyns Agroforestry (one return journey) will be covered by ORC. Reasonable food costs will be reimbursed for the duration of the fieldwork component.

Person specification

Attribute	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSc (at least 2.1) in Agricultural Economics, Agriculture with Business, Agriculture and Food Marketing, or similar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in business development, farm management or marketing • Postgraduate qualifications
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field research • Scientific literature review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistical methods
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good organisational skills • Computer literate with Windows and MS office • In particular, good knowledge of Excel and other tools for entering and managing numerical data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding and experience of statistics packages • Good communication skills both written and oral, in a variety of styles
Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-motivated • Independent and able to work alone • Enthusiastic and flexible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in organic farming, food systems, agroecology and the environment
General ability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to travel to Wakelyns (Suffolk) for a portion of the internship • Willingness to work on site for 2-3 weeks 	