

Master's thesis project in plant ecology in Lapland



Join our group “Plant Ecophysiology and Climate Change” (PECC) for an exciting opportunity to do research in a subarctic mountain ecosystem in Finnish Lapland! This is a unique chance to live and work at Kilpisjärvi Biological Research Station in a beautiful environment of mountains, lakes and reindeer, studying “The effects of microclimate on arctic-alpine plants”.



Plants in northern latitudes face a harsh environment. In order to persist, they make use of more favourable conditions in their microhabitat, such as a later timing of snowmelt or locally warmer temperatures. We use ecophysiological, ecological and environmental measurements to study how plant development relates to small-scale environmental conditions. The research is carried out between June and August 2015 and can be a Master's thesis (gradu) or practical training project. You will have the opportunity to incorporate your research plan into an existing PhD project, analyse and present your own data. It is possible to participate in the interesting courses offered at the biological station and interact with other visiting researchers and students during your stay. Funding for the cost of transportation to and accommodation in Kilpisjärvi will be applied for together with the selected student.



This project is suitable for a Master's student in plant biology or a related discipline who is enthusiastic about plant-environmental relations and preferably has experience spending longer periods of time in adverse weather. You should also have a good command of English and be willing to work as part of a small team. This is an excellent project for a student who enjoys nature, a variety of work and can be happy in an isolated location.

To apply, please send an email to the contact address below with a short message expressing your interest and a CV. We will contact you to invite you for an informal meeting.

For more information:

Contact: friederike.gehrmann@helsinki.fi

Supervisor: Heikki Hänninen, Plant Ecophysiology and Climate Change (PECC).

Website of PECC: <http://www.helsinki.fi/bioscience/pecc/group/group.html>

Website of Kilpisjärvi Biological Station: <http://www.helsinki.fi/kilpis/english/index.htm>