Internship – Soil Analyses and Plant Physiology in Turkey

We are seeking a motivated student with a completed Bachelor's degree to join a collaborative conservation project on *Eriolobus trilobatus*, a near-threatened tree species of high ecological importance in the eastern Mediterranean. The broader project will assess genetic diversity across populations from the Aegean, Mediterranean, and Southern Marmara regions of Turkey. The advertised research opportunity focuses on soil analyses and training in physiological analyses. The project "***Determination of intraspecific genetic diversity in Eriolobus trilobatus (Labill. ex Poiret) M. Roem. across three regions in Turkey and its associations with environmental and edaphic factors***" is funded by the DAAD within the program " Project-Related Personal Exchange (PPP) with Turkey.

*Eriolobus trilobatu*s is valued for its drought tolerance, flavorful fruits, and natural phenolic/antioxidant compounds. Its range includes isolated populations in northern Israel, Lebanon, south and west Anatolia (Turkey), and it reaches its northern/western limit in Greek Thrace and SE Bulgaria. While past studies have examined distribution, germination, and ethnobotany—and, locally, morphological and biochemical traits—this project expands knowledge across Turkey to support conservation and bilateral collaboration between Turkey and Germany.

Your responsibilities

- Perform standard laboratory analyses on soil samples collected from multiple populations.
- Learn and apply plant physiological analyses relevant to drought tolerance and stress responses (training provided).

Travel requirement (travel expenses will be covered by the DAAD)

- One 20-day period scheduled in either November or December 2025, or January 2026.
- One 20-day period between 22 March and 30 April 2026.

What we offer

- Hands-on training in soil laboratory methods and plant physiological analyses.
- Experience within an international, interdisciplinary team addressing a real-world conservation challenge.
- Opportunities to contribute to high-impact research that supports the conservation of a rare Mediterranean tree species.

Please submit your CV (2 pages) to Prof. Dr. Oliver Gailing (ogailin@gwdg.de) and/or Dr. Markus Müller (mmuellef@gwdg.de); Department Forest Genetics and Forest Tree Breeding, University Göttingen.