



PhD Position in Dryland Oak Ecology

The Dryland Tree and Ecosystem Ecology Lab and The Sheffer Lab at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel have an opening for an outstanding and highly motivated PhD student in dryland tree ecology. The project is entitled **Oaks on the Edge – Saving Oak Populations from the Threat of Climate Change**, and includes collaboration with the labs of Prof. Dr. Frank Schurr, University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, and of Prof. Dr. Britta Tietjen, Freie Universität Berlin in Germany.



Background: Drier and hotter conditions due to climate change are expected to profoundly impact species-rich Mediterranean oak woodlands. This project aims to quantify the potential interactive effect of climate and livestock grazing on the growth, water relations and reproduction of a keystone oak species towards the dry edge of its global distribution.

Candidate: The successful candidate will gain experience in field measurements related to tree ecophysiology, ecosystem ecology and demography, and in simulations of these topics using process-based models. Interested applicants for this PhD position must hold a Master's degree in a related science field (e.g., ecology, geography, environmental science, or similar). They have to be fluent in English, have excellent communications skill, and have a strong aptitude for scientific writing. Experience in modeling of ecological processes is beneficial. Applicants should send a cover letter outlining experience and specific interests related to field research and modeling in dryland tree ecology, a curriculum vitae, degree and transcripts of their academic record, contact information for two academic references, and past research publications (if available). The successful candidate will receive a scholarship fully covering living expenses in Israel for five years. Starting date is targeted for May 1, 2021, but can be discussed. Applications should be sent to Jose.Gruenzweig@mail.huji.ac.il & Efrat.Sheffer@mail.huji.ac.il.