



Factsheet n. 1

PhD Programme in Agrobiodiversity

<https://www.santannapisa.it/en/training/phd-agrobiodiversity>

Ph.D. Coordinator	Prof. Mario Enrico Pè e-mail: marioenrico.pe@santannapisa.it	
Language	English	
Duration	4 years	
Academic Objectives	<p>The ambitious goal of the program is to enhance the capabilities of human resources in the use and management of agrobiodiversity in agricultural and natural systems, with a particular focus on Global South areas. This can be articulated into a series of subsidiary objectives that collectively contribute to achieving the main goal. The contributory objectives of the program are listed below.</p> <p>Disciplinary Skills As a doctoral program, the first objective is to provide solid theoretical, methodological, and practical skills in disciplinary areas such as agronomy, plant genetics, genomics, and physiology. Other fundamental areas for acquiring skills include statistics, bioinformatics, and ecology. Classroom courses, specialized seminars, discussions on scientific articles, and interactive events where students are directly involved are obvious tools.</p> <p>Interdisciplinarity The Sant'Anna School strongly promotes interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity. The PhD in Agrobiodiversity aims to instill the idea that the complex problems contemporary societies face require interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches. Student co-supervision by experts from different areas in the program is encouraged, to expand the scope of the various doctoral thesis projects, where the thesis question is addressed from different angles. Additionally, the program is very active in organizing or co-organizing interdisciplinary activities in the form of seminar series and workshops.</p> <p>Internationalization A heterogeneous cohort of students from different parts of Italy, Europe, and the rest of the world is a feature of our program.</p> <p>Cultural Growth We believe that successful researchers should also be cultured citizens, and the program accepts the responsibility to contribute to the general cultural growth of doctoral students. For this reason, the program promotes cultural events involving doctoral students, such as group visits to museums, concerts, and films. Considering the composition of the student cohort, this also contributes to the dissemination of rich Italian culture, further supported by providing foreign students interested in learning Italian with the opportunity to take specific Italian language courses offered by the University of Pisa. This activity is recognized when students are assessed before being admitted to the thesis defense.</p>	
Curricula	A	Plant genetic resources
	B	Functional biodiversity in agroecosystems
Available Positions	no. 5 positions with scholarship , funded by Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna	
Additional information and documentation to be attached to the online application	Applicants should attach all the mandatory documents included in the Call for Applications (art. 3) and provide the information requested in the mandatory "Additional information".	
	Please note that the research project should be written in English, about 3,500 words and preferably address topics relevant to the areas of interest of the PhD in	



	<p>Agrobiodiversity, which are listed at the following web page: https://www.santannapisa.it/it/training/phd-agrobiodiversity</p> <p>Optional documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publications (e.g. articles in scientific journals, conference proceedings, etc);• Other Master and/or specialization degrees in subjects consistent with the research topics of this Ph.D. programme;• Teaching experience at the university level• Research and working experience• Internships• Language certificates (e.g. the Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE), or TOEFL (at least 220 points computer-based or 500 points paper-based). The level of equivalence of English language certificates is assessed by the Selection Committee.• Mobility experience abroad (e.g. Erasmus programs or similar)• Any other document certifying the applicant's excellence (prizes, fellowships, and grants)
<p>Evaluation Criteria</p>	<p>The selection process will take place in three successive steps: a) evaluation of the research plan; b) assessment of the presented qualifications; c) online interview. Advancement to the next evaluation stage is determined by achieving a minimum score, as indicated below.</p> <p>a) Evaluation of the research program - maximum score: 60 points</p> <p>The research program should be coherent with the objectives of the Ph.D. in Agrobiodiversity.</p> <p>The program must have a clear development and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- title of the research;- scientific assumptions and literature references relating to the theories and approaches by which the research intends to be inspired;- overall purpose, objectives, and expectations/questions guiding the research;- experimental methods and data analysis methodologies which will or could be used;- a timetable of the activities proposed. <p>The candidate's research program will be evaluated in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- knowledge and correct application of relevant theories and literature;- coherence, feasibility, and robustness of the research approaches and methods proposed;- originality and innovativeness of the research;- clarity of presentation;- feasibility of the research concerning the duration of the Ph.D. <p>After having evaluated the research project, the Selection Committee will formulate a summary result and assign a grade out of a total of 60 points</p> <p>Candidates who score at least 50 / 60 will be admitted to the subsequent evaluation of qualifications.</p> <p>b) Evaluation of qualifications - maximum score: 20 points</p> <p>The Selection Committee will evaluate the <i>curriculum studiorum</i> and any scientific qualifications presented. At the end of the evaluation, the Committee will formulate a summary result and assign a rating out of a total of 20 points.</p> <p>Candidates who score at least 10/20 will be admitted to the interview.</p> <p>The presence of candidates during the evaluation of qualifications is not expected.</p> <p>c) On-line interview - maximum score: 20 points</p> <p>The interview will take place through a video conference and will have as its subject a general discussion, which will also concern the qualifications presented and the contents of the research program presented, as well as an oral test to assess knowledge of the English language.</p> <p>The minimum score for inclusion in the final ranking list is 70/100.</p>



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