

What CultiVar offers You

> You are a student

With **CultiVar** you have an opportunity to follow rigorously balanced curricula, delivered by dedicated trainers, featuring fundamental base-building blocks, frontier knowledge in plant science and updated strategic analysis of global challenges. Two-year full fellowships are open for application in 2016 and 2017. You will have broad choices for research internships on a wide array of crops. Your progress will be monitored by a dedicated mentor. Being part of an expanding international network of young scientists and laboratories will also contribute to your future employability.

> You are a researcher

CultiVar will enable you to share your passion and expose your best and most advanced research to the latest generation of scientists. You will be in contact with young students with a broad range of career prospects. You will interact with education professionals and your lectures will be visible, durable and recognised. You will be able to attract good students for research internships, with financial support from **CultiVar**.

> You are a teacher

CultiVar boosts your interactions with researchers for the generation of research-anchored educational modules. It organizes access to materials and resources that will enrich your own curriculum in a coordinated manner with other educational programmes. The broad geographical scope of **CultiVar** will offer you opportunities for having your curriculum gain in impact and visibility.

> You are an employer

CultiVar is designed to release well trained and high-performing young researchers, with an initial experience in an international context, exposure to unconventional biological challenges and connection with many specialized research groups. **CultiVar** management invites you to specify your expectations and to develop mutual acquaintance with the initiative and with hosted students.



"The AYA fern: symbol of endurance and resourcefulness. The fern is a hardy plant that can grow in difficult places". (Willi, The Adinkra Dictionary)



CONTACT

CultiVar

CIRAD, TA A-108/03
Avenue Agropolis
34398 Montpellier Cedex 5 France
33 (0) 4 67 61 55 16

cultivar@agropolis.fr



 **CultiVar**
Training in plant breeding

Providing postgraduate
students and trainees
with a broad,
research-anchored,
experience
for **learning plant breeding**

www.cultivar-flagship.net

CultiVar is funded by Agropolis Fondation (France)
www.agropolis-fondation.fr



100% recycled paper



Promoting Plant Breeding

CultiVar is funded by the Agropolis Fondation, a world-class scientific network in the South of France. CultiVar mobilizes a vibrant Research and Education community in order to implement crop improvement as an impact pathway. Faced with major global challenges, there is an urgent need to train more professionals who will:

- Explore new genetic sources of diversity
- Improve new traits in crops
- Leverage new technologies and concepts for advances in plant breeding



- Seize major scientific opportunities in biology and biomaths to boost plant breeding
- Establish new collective practices.

CultiVar also raises student awareness of the strategic, economic, ethical and political analyses which determine the field of plant breeding.

Constructing an international network

CultiVar builds on existing established Masters and PhD curricula, initially in France, Senegal and Vietnam, and establishes a global organization for a fine match between training needs/expectations and up-to-date expertise of research teams.

The students selected are chosen from various geographical and cultural horizons, with the aim of developing diverse high-level operational and managerial responsibilities. They prepare the foundation for international cooperation in agricultural research for worldwide development.

CultiVar, an international multi-partner initiative, fosters the exchange of information and capacities between researchers and students within established Masters and PhD curricula oriented towards plant breeding.



● Research-anchored modules

Partner plant science leaders are transforming their results into educational materials with the help of training/education specialists so that new media can be broadly used and deployed.

● Student mentoring

Two cohorts of students starting their Master in 2016 and 2017 will be supported and assisted in order to stimulate personal development as well as assess and refine modules and training practices.



● Interdisciplinary bridges

Interfaces between disciplines, action-research experiences, multi-dimensional matters are addressed through conferences, roundtables and symposia in order to expose students to the complexity of research for development.

A global coordination

A **Management Team** runs the project in name of a Steering Committee, and with the lead scientists. The **Steering Committee** gathers delegates from multiple structures so that the three dimensions of the project, namely Research, Education and Partnership, contribute to the global strategy. The **Lead Scientists** are in charge of preparing the contents of the courses that will be specifically developed and host the students for their internships.

Current partners

Research units of Agropolis

- UMR AGAP Genetic Improvement and Adaptation of Mediterranean and Tropical Plants
- UMR AMAP Botany and Modelling of Plant Architecture and Vegetation
- UMR BGPI Biology and Genetics of Plant-Pathogen Interactions
- UMR DIADE Crop Diversity, Adaptation and Development
- UR GAFL Genetic Improvement of Fruits and Vegetables
- UMR IPME Plant-Microorganism-Environment Interactions
- UMR LEPSE Ecophysiology of Plants under Environmental Stresses
- UMR LSTM Laboratory of Tropical and Mediterranean Symbioses

Postgraduate curricula

- Montpellier SupAgro Master 3A (Agronomy and Agri-Food)
- Université de Montpellier Master BioAgro (Biology AgroSciences)
- Ecole doctorale Montpellier GAIA
- Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Master BIOVEM (Biotechnologies Végétales et Microbiennes)
- Université de Thiès Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Agriculture
- University of Hanoi University of Hanoi Master in Biotechnology Pharmacology

International partnership platforms and laboratories

- DP IAVAO (Thiès/Senegal) Innovation et Amélioration Variétale et Afrique de l'Ouest
- LMI LAPSE (Dakar/Senegal) Adaptation des Plantes et microorganismes associés aux Stress Environnementaux
- LMI RICE (Hanoi/Vietnam) International Joint Laboratory Rice Functional Genomics and Plant Biotechnology