

1 PhD student in the research education subject: Forest management

Pre-commercial thinning for diverse forest types

The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) is announcing for a PhD-position that will participate in developing new methods for pre-commercial thinning in southern Sweden.

The PhD-position is one of six that will be part of the research program FRAS, "future silviculture in southern Sweden", that is a co-operation between SLU, Skogforsk and the Linné University. PhD-students within the program will be working with different silvicultural aspects during the rotation in order to give a good synthesis of the whole silvicultural chain. Communication with the forest sector is an important part of the research program.

The variety of the young forest is usually great and it is still possible to influence the structure of the future forest. Thus, pre-commercial thinning is an important tool to maintain or promote the naturally established variety of the forest. One goal could be to utilize the naturally regenerated broadleaved tree species or to promote the structural variation in terms of tree dimension and the spatial distribution of the trees. There is a demand for silvicultural advices on how to promote the variation of the forest. Mixed species stands are regarded as beneficial for the biodiversity and certification standards demand a long-term admixture for broadleaves in the production forests. Silvicultural methods including multi-layered stands are also requested to complement today's clear cutting system.

We are looking for a PhD student who will study how pre-commercial thinning can be used to promote the variety of the young forest and how it will influence the stand development. The PhD student will study how naturally regenerated broadleaves can be utilized to create mixed stands. The PhD student is also going to evaluate the possibility to promote structural variety already the time of pre-commercial thinning. A part of the work will be to compile and analyse data from existing field experiments but also to establish and evaluate new field experiments.

Qualifications

Education at advanced level, Msc in forest management or equivalent. The candidate should have an interest in silviculture and nature conservation. Your work is structured and you have good skills in writing and speaking. You are analytic and creative and you are used to work independently. Since the position includes field work, you should have a driving license.

Affiliation in Alnarp.

For additional FRAS positions, see also: LNU:
<https://lnu.se/mot-linneuniversitetet/Lediga-jobb/>

It is possible to apply for more than one of the FRAS-PhD positions, but separate applications need to be submitted for each position. All FRAS-PhD positions will be appointed during the autumn of 2017, under the condition that the research program is fully financed.

Forms for funding or employment

Employment as PhD student (2 or 4 years education)

SLU is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

A person has basic eligibility for third level education if he or she has taken a second level qualification or has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 higher education credits at second level.

Selection among applicants meeting the requirements is made with reference to written application including curriculum vitae, copies of degrees and transcripts of academic records, one copy of the dissertation for masters or undergraduate degree, a list of at least two references familiar with the applicant's qualifications, certified knowledge of the English language and an interview.

Read about the PhD education at SLU at www.slu.se/en/education/programmes-courses/postgraduate-studies/

Use this [APPLICATION FORM](#)

Further information:

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Applications, marked with **ref no SLU ua 1653/2017**, must have arrived at the Registrar of SLU, P.O. Box 7070, SE-750 07 Uppsala or registrator@slu.se no later than **2017-06-12**.

