



2015-IPR-H-000-4593

Exploring the predictability at country level of sugar content in sugar beets in the EU

Position for:

Trainee TYPE II (preferably)

Short description of activity:

One of the main objectives of the AGRI4CAST group in the Unit for Monitoring Agricultural Resources (MARS) is the provision of timely, independent crop yield forecasts at European and Member State level. This is accomplished through the monthly MARS bulletins, which are used by DG AGRI and DG ESTAT analysts to prepare crop balance sheets supporting market analyses and decisions related to the CAP management of stocks, import/export, market intervention, and budget preparation. The generation of crop forecasts relies on the MARS crop yield forecasting system (MCYFS), a complex, integrated analysis tool comprising remote sensing, meteorological observations, weather forecasts, biophysical modelling and statistical analyses.

The objective of the proposed training is to explore methods to predict beet sugar content on the basis of readily available information as currently used in the MARS crop yield forecasting system (MCYFS). The analysis would start by, for a few countries, assessing simple regression equations relating temperature and moisture parameters with historic beet sugar records. Depending on results, the analysis could be extended with simple crop modelling exercises using the MCYFS BioMA framework.

Qualifications:

The trainee should have a background in agro-meteorology, crop physiology, applied mathematics or related fields. Experience in statistics is essential.

Good knowledge of spoken and written English (level B1) is essential.

For general eligibility requirements, please read the rules governing the traineeship scheme of the JRC:

<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/working-with-us/jobs/temporary-positions/jrc-trainees>

Institute/Directorate Unit	Institute for Environment and Sustainability Monitoring Agricultural ResourceS (MARS) Unit AGRI4CAST group Further information: http://mars.jrc.ec.europa.eu/mars/About-us/AGRI4CAST
Indicative duration	5 months
Preferred starting date	As soon as possible
JRC Site	Ispra
Country	Italy
<u>JRC contact details</u>	For any technical problems with your application, please contact: JRC-ESRA@ec.europa.eu