The research group Evolution of Meiosis, belonging to the Department of Chromosome Biology at the MPIPZ - Cologne, is interested in the study of meiotic adaptations and recombination mechanisms taking place in holocentric plants. The group will start up from September 1st 2019. Here, we will address these evolutionary meiotic questions using as model species plants from the genus *Rhynchospora*, which have species with chiasmatic and achiasmatic meiosis.

In the framework of this research project, which aims to elucidate the genome organization, meiotic adaptations and recombination frequencies in the holocentric plants *Rhynchospora pubera* and *R. tenuis*, we are looking for a highly motivated postdoc and a PhD candidate.

Please find below the description of the available positions:

**Postdoc position (36 months):**

Your tasks:

- You are going to work on the genome assembly, comparative transcriptome analysis as well as on the estimation of recombination frequencies in holocentric plants
- You will perform several bioinformatic tasks regarding comparative genomics and transcriptomics

You fit to us:

- You are bright, highly motivated, and enthusiastic person
- You are interested in evolutionary plant genomics, meiosis, evolution
- You have good communication skills
- You have the ability to work independently, as well as part of a team
A willingness to apply for fellowships where appropriate (e.g. EMBO, Marie-Curie, DFG)

Your qualification and skills:

- You own a PhD degree in Bioinformatics
- You have a background in plant genomics, recombination analysis, meiosis, evolution
- You do have solid English skills, which are a prerequisite for an effective work in our multicultural working environment

The salary will be according to German civil service conditions (TVöD-Bund) and includes social security benefits.

PhD position (36 months):

Your tasks:

- You are going to study several proteins related to meiotic adaptations and recombination in holocentric plant species
- You will identify candidate genes, develop new antibodies and perform several cytological experiments in meiotic cells
- You will be involved in the genome assembly and meiotic transcriptome characterization of holocentric plants

You fit to us:

- You are bright, highly motivated, and enthusiastic person
- You are interested in evolutionary plant cytology, cellular biology, evolution, meiosis, recombination
You have good communication skills

You have the ability to work independently, as well as part of a team

Your qualification and skills:

- You own a master degree on plant biology, genetics, biochemistry, cytology, or related field
- You have a background in plant genomics, recombination analysis, meiosis
- You do have solid English skills, which are a prerequisite for an effective work in our multicultural working environment

Salary and working hours are in accordance with funding guidelines of the Max Planck Society for junior scientists. Working hours are full time; salary is 50% of E13 TVöD-Bund.

The Max Planck Society is committed to increasing the number of individuals with disabilities in its workforce and therefore encourages applications from such qualified individuals. Furthermore, the Max Planck Society seeks to increase the number of women in those areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply.

Please send a CV (including contact details of two or three references) and a letter of motivation to Dr. André Marques (application-marques@mpipz.mpg.de) with the subject title ‘MPIPZ Postdoc’ or ‘MPIPZ PhD’.

Applications will be gladly accepted before May 31th 2019.