18 months full-time engineer contract

Role of cell wall in plant iron nutrition

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Tou Cheu Xiong, Institute for Plant Sciences of Montpellier

Starting date: 1 April 2026
Application deadline: 15 February 2026

A **fully funded 18-month contract** is available in the **Metal Mobility team** at the **Institute for Plant Sciences of Montpellier (IPSIM)**. Our team benefits from state-of-the-art facilities and an excellent scientific environment, with a highly interactive group of researchers in plant mineral nutrition and physiology.

The Metal Mobility team studies the mechanisms regulating iron in *Arabidopsis thaliana*, an essential metal often poorly available in soils. We focus on identifying membrane transporters, their regulators, and factors controlling iron speciation. A new redox Fe imaging approach has revealed Fe localization in the cell wall, and the project aims to decipher the **role of the cell wall in plant Fe nutrition**.

By integrating multidisciplinary approaches—including chemistry, biophysics, and genetics—together with fluorescence microscopy and mutant line analysis, this project aims to investigate the link between the cell wall and plant metal nutrition. This research will provide new insights into the molecular mechanisms of plant iron sensing and the genetic factors controlling iron homeostasis.

We are seeking a highly motivated, open-minded, and curious individual with a strong passion for research to join this project. A solid background in cellular and molecular biology, microscopy, and image analysis would be a strong asset.

Interested candidates should apply via the website (https://jobs.inrae.fr/ot-28023) or send their CV, a motivation letter, and contact information of references to **Tou Cheu Xiong** (**toucheu.xiong@inrae.fr**).

For further information or to discuss this opportunity informally, please contact us.