



**CALL FOR RESEARCH CANDIDATES
TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS
TO THE SPANISH GRANT “RAMON Y CAJAL”
FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF SCIENTISTS**

About the Grant “Ramon y Cajal”

The Grant “Ramon y Cajal” is the most prestigious fellowship granted by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO) for postdoc recruitment.

IRTA seeks to appoint researchers highly qualified to submit proposals to this fellowship on a five years basis contract, with the possibility of becoming part of the IRTA’s research staff at the end of this grant.

About IRTA

IRTA is a research institute owned by the Government of Catalonia ascribed to the Department of Agriculture and Livestock. It is regulated by Law 04/2009, passed by the Catalan Parliament on 15 April 2009, and it is ruled by private regulations. IRTA is one of the CERCA centers of excellence of the Catalan Research System.

IRTA’s purpose is to contribute to the **modernization, competitiveness and sustainable development of agriculture**, food and aquaculture sectors, the supply of healthy and quality foods for consumers and, generally, improving the welfare and prosperity of the society.



mission

To contribute to the modernization, improvement and promotion of competitiveness and sustainable development in the Agriculture, Food and Aquaculture sectors, providing safe, quality foods to the final consumer and generally contributing to the global improvement of human welfare.



vision

To become the scientific reference and a force for innovation, and technology transfer. We aim to be the strategic partner of the food industry.agro-food sector.



values

1. Commitment
2. Creativity
3. Learning
4. Innovation
5. Leadership
6. Respect
7. Service Vocation

IRTA consolidated research lines

Postharvest

To improve the quality of fresh and processed fruit and vegetables throughout the value chain, from the harvest to the end consumer.

contact Dr. Neus Teixidó (neus.teixido@irta.cat)



Fruit production

To solve the problems and face the challenges of the fruit production sector.

contact Dr. Luis Asín (luis.asin@irta.cat)



Sustainable Field Crops

To contribute to the scientific knowledge and economic and environmental sustainability of agri-ecosystems through research and innovation of genetic plant improvement and agronomy.

contact Dr. Marta Da Silva Lopes (marta.dasilva@irta.cat)



Sustainable Plant Protection

To develop new control strategies compatible with low impact management practices to improve plant health and crop production

contact Dr. Cinta Calvet (cinta.calvet@irta.cat)



Genomics and Biotechnology

To study the inheritance of characters related to the resistance to disease and fruit quality (ripening and aroma) in species of the *cucurbit* (melon) and *rosaceae* (peach and strawberry) families

contact Dr. Amparo Monfort (amparo.monfort@irta.cat)



Efficient Use of Water in Agriculture

To develop knowledge and technology to improve efficiency in the use and productivity of irrigation.

contact Dr. Jaume Casadesús (jaume.casadesus@irta.cat)



Animal Breeding and Genetics

To study of genetic determinism and the development of selection strategies in relation to the efficiency and robustness in pig and rabbit populations.

contact Dr. Raquel Quintanilla (raquel.quintanilla@irta.cat)



Animal Nutrition

To study how to enhance monogastric nutritional efficiency in order to improve livestock productivity, health and welfare and reduce the environmental impact of intensive production systems.

contact Dr. Enric Esteve (enric.esteve@irta.cat)



Aquaculture

To improve the quality, productivity, and sustainability of both new and established fish and molluscs species.

contact Dr. Enric Gisbert (enric.gisbert@irta.cat)



Animal Health

To improve animal health and the quality and safety of animal products intended for human consumption. CReSA has unique high biosecurity infrastructures to work with exotic and/or highly infectious pathogens, both *in vitro* and *in vivo* in optimal conditions

contact Dr. Fernando Rodríguez (fernando.rodriguez@irta.cat)



Ruminant Production

To improve productivity, farm sustainability and product quality on bovine milk and meat products.

contact Dr. Maria Devant (maria.devant@irta.cat)



Animal Welfare

To contribute to animal welfare in the modernisation, competitiveness and sustainable development of livestock production.

contact Dr. Antoni Velarde (antoni.veladre@irta.cat)



Food Technology

To solve the problems and face the challenges of the food industries, mainly in meat, dairy, fish, fruit and cereals.

contact Dr. Pere Gou (pere.gou@irta.cat)



Product Quality

To assess the quality of meat from a technological, nutritional, sensory and social point of view in relation to genetics, feeding and ante and post mortem treatment

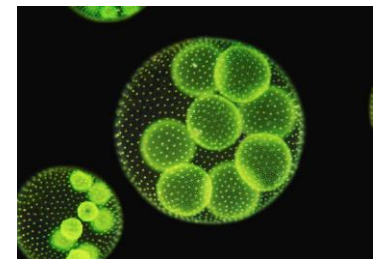
contact Dr. Maria Font (maria.font@irta.cat)



Food Safety

To develop and optimise protocols for the detection, characterisation, extraction and quantification of chemical compounds in food products

contact Dr. Sara Bover (sara.bover@irta.cat)



Integral Management of Organic Waste

To develop new knowledge and technologies in the field of sustainable management of organic waste in agriculture, livestock breeding and by municipal authorities

contact Dr. Francesc Xavier Prenafeta (francesc.prenafeta@irta.cat)



Marine and Continental Waters

To study the impact of climate change on Mediterranean coastal and continental aquatic ecosystems in order to develop effective adaptation and mitigation strategies



contact Dr. Jorge Diogene (jorge.diogene@irta.cat)

Agri-Food Economics

To promote research work and provide technical assistance in the fields of economics and social sciences applied to the agricultural and food sectors



contact Dr. José Maria Gil (josemaria.gil@irta.cat)

Requirements for the grant application:

- To hold a PhD title and have spent, at least, 24 months as postdoctoral in R+D centres at the deadline.
- The PhD degree must have been obtained between 1st of January 2008 and 31st of December 2015. The following periods shall be excluded from the calculation:
 - Maternity or paternity leave.
 - Serious illness or accident with sick leave of 3 or more months.
 - Care for dependent persons for a minimum of 3 months.
- A highly-competitive scientific record of publications
- When the candidate has more than one PhD title, the 10 years period should be counted from the first one.
- In case that the PhD research was performed at IRTA, to have spent at least 24 months in R+D research organizations other than IRTA.

This is a full-time position where the successful candidates will be contracted on a 5 years basis, with the possibility of becoming part of IRTA's scientific permanent staff at the end of the period. IRTA has its own internal evaluation system that allows, at the third year from the incorporation of the Ramon y Cajal fellows, to assess their scientific contribution and consider their consolidation at the end of the 5-year period.

IRTA offers:

- A work contract for five years.
- Gross Salary: 37,084.81 €/year
- An additional grant of 40,000 € to be spent in research activities.

Please, send an e-mail to the contact person of the research line of interest, attaching your CV and a motivation letter before the 20th of January **(included)**.

**Deadline timing
for selection and
appointment:**

As the grant body –Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness- assesses all applications for its own; the deadline timing for the final resolution is around eleven (11) months from the deadline of the call.