



UNIVERSITY OF  
HOHENHEIM

University of Hohenheim (310a) | D-70599 Stuttgart

**Faculty of Agricultural Sciences**  
**Institute of Soil Science and Land Evaluation**  
Department of Soil Chemistry and Pedology

**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Thilo Rennert**  
Managing director  
Head of department

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11.11.2024

## RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN SOIL CHEMISTRY

The Department of Soil Chemistry and Pedology at the Institute of Soil Science and Land Evaluation of the University of Hohenheim (Germany) is seeking to fulfil the position of a research associate (f/m/d).

**Research field:** Soil chemistry and soil mineralogy

**Duration:** 3 years

**Starting date:** 1.3.25, or negotiable

**Submission deadline for applications:** 20.12.2024

**Project:** The project aims to obtain a mechanistic understanding of the processes that control the stabilization of soil organic matter (SOM) in Umbrisols/umbric horizons. Studying Umbrisols/soils with umbric horizon from Georgia, Slovenia, and Slovakia, we will focus on soil constituents that affect SOM stabilization (particularly short-range ordered aluminosilicates, hydroxy-interlayered minerals, Al in organic association), and on the characterization (infrared spectroscopy, thermal properties) and distribution of SOM among fractions that differ in their rate of SOM cycling. Additionally, we will conduct weathering experiments that enable the identification of proceeding processes, combined with geochemical modelling.

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Emil-Wolff-Str. 27 (postal address)  
Emil-Wolff-Str. 12  
D-70599 Stuttgart

### BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERGISCHE BANK

IBAN DE20 6005 0101 0002 5601 08  
BIC-Code SOLAEST600  
UST-ID DE 147 794 207

### DIRECTIONS

Stadtbahn U3, Plieningen  
Bus 65, 70, 73, 74, 76  
Universität Hohenheim

**Your profile:** I am looking for a dynamic, motivated, and serious researcher with an outstanding master degree in agricultural science, environmental science, geoscience or a related field with a strong focus on soil chemistry and soil mineralogy. You have an attested comprehensive knowledge on chemical processes in soil and the minerals and soil organic matter involved, and you are used to work independently. You are experienced with soil-chemical laboratory methods (e.g. wet-chemical extractions), spectroscopic methods such as infrared and UV-vis spectroscopy, and X-ray diffractometry. You have a very good command in spoken and written English. International candidates are highly encouraged to apply. German language skills are recommended for interaction with students and non-scientific staff. You are expected to present the results of the project at international conferences and to publish the outcomes of the project in peer-reviewed journals. A driving license and experience in field work is mandatory.

**Our offer:** Payment will be according to the tariff for German civil service employees (TV-L) at salary level 13 (65%). The position is mainly addressed to young researchers holding a master's degree, who can obtain a PhD degree within the project, but the position is also open to more experienced scientists already holding a PhD degree.

**Please send a single pdf file** to Prof. Thilo Rennert (t.rennert@uni-hohenheim.de) that includes: complete curriculum vitae, copies of qualifications (international applicants: please add an explanation of the grade system), list of chemical lab methods/spectroscopic techniques you have personally applied, publication list if applicable, certificate of language test, information on driving license. Incomplete or segmented applications will not be considered.

The University of Hohenheim aims to increase the percentage of female employees. If equally qualified, preference will be given to female applicants. Individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply as well.

Information on our previous work: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Thilo-Rennert>