

Bachelor Internship Opportunity: Investigating drivers for productivity in *Sphagnum* paludiculture.

Description: Paludiculture – the productive use of wet or rewetted peatlands – can support peatland restoration while providing income to farmers. One viable crop is *Sphagnum* (peat mosses), which constitutes a promising substitute for peat-based growing media. These mosses can support the return of peatland ecosystem services, such as peat formation, water retention, and habitats for biodiversity. We collected biomass-, soil, and porewater samples from two *Sphagnum* farms in NW Germany with different levels of productivity. During your internship, you will learn how to analyze biomass and soil samples and investigate the key drivers influencing the differences in productivity between the two sites. Your work will contribute to understanding under which circumstances *Spagnum* paludiculture thrive & struggle.

Qualification: We are looking for motivated students who are passionate about ecology. You will be responsible for laboratory and data analysis. Both tasks require good organizational skills, attention to detail and the ability to work both independently and within a dynamic team. The internship will mainly consist of laboratory work but opportunities to go out in the field can be arranged!

Application: If you are excited about this opportunity, do not hesitate to contact us!

Gabrielle Quadra (gabrielle.quadra@ru.nl)

Moritz Adam (moritz.adam@ru.nl)

