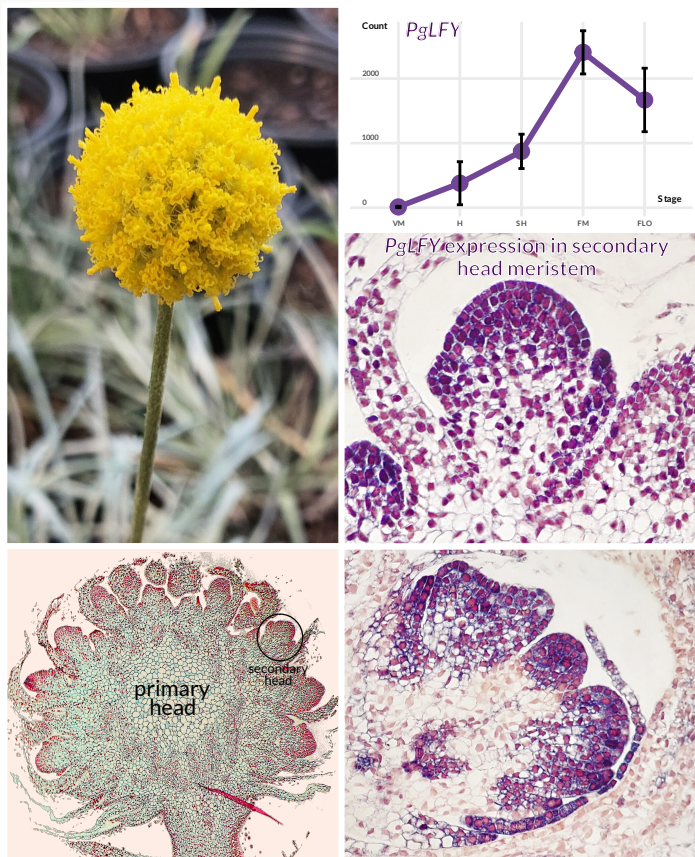


# Call for Applications

## PhD Student Position in NCN Project



## Project Description

The exceptionally diverse sunflower family (Asteraceae, over 30,000 species) owes much of its evolutionary success to the capitulum, a flower-like inflorescence, and the even more complex **syncephalium**, an aggregation of multiple capitula.

This project investigates the poorly understood developmental mechanisms behind syncephalia evolution, using a combination of morphological, molecular, and bioinformatic approaches, including:

- comparative genomics
- developmental transcriptomics
- analyses of gene expression patterns *in situ*
- functional analyses

The findings aim to advance our understanding of how changes in meristem activity generate novel plant structures and contribute to evolutionary and economically important variation in plant architecture.

## Candidate Profile

The student will be responsible for **conducting research within the project scope**, including bioinformatic and/or wet lab analyses (depending on interest and previous experience), **preparing scientific publications and presenting project results at national and international conferences**. The candidate must meet following requirements:

- **Master's degree in Biology, Biotechnology, Environmental Sciences and related**
- **Basic knowledge of plant biology**
- **Familiarity with basic laboratory techniques (DNA/RNA isolation and quality assessments techniques, PCR) OR basic command of Linux shell and previous experience with R and /or Python**
- **Good command of English**

## Application Info

**Institution:** University of Warsaw, Faculty of Biology, Institute of Evolutionary Biology

**Funding scheme:** NCN SONATA

**Number of positions:** 1

**Salary:** Monthly stipend of ~3700 PLN net during years 1-2; increased to ~4900 PLN net after mid-term evaluation. **In addition, student can apply for stipend provided by doctoral school**

**Application deadline:** 17 April 2026

**Announcement of results:** 1 May 2026

**Start date:** October 2026

**Project duration:** 36 months

The application documents, including (1) Academic CV with information on achievements, skills and previous research experience (2) Copy of Master's Diploma and (3) Recommendation Letter from a former academic supervisor should be submitted directly to dr Jakub Baczyński (PI) at [j.baczynski@uw.edu.pl](mailto:j.baczynski@uw.edu.pl). Selected candidates will be invited for a brief interview in the second half of April.

The PhD student will be selected by the committee through a competitive process in accordance with the Regulations for awarding scientific scholarships in research projects funded by the National Science Centre (NCN Council Resolution No. 25/2024 of March 4, 2024). **For non-EU candidates, we require current documents confirming legal residence in Poland. The selected candidate must have the legal right to reside and work in Poland by the start date of employment.** The submission of an application implies that the candidate has read the GDPR information clause and acknowledges that the personal data contained in the application documents will be processed solely for the purpose of conducting this recruitment procedure/competition.