







IRTA is a research institute owned by the Government of Catalonia ascribed to the Ministry of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda. IRTA is one of the CERCA centers of excellence of the Catalan Research System. Our 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. We are granted by the EU with the [HRS4R](#) distinction for "HR Excellence in Research" and thus we offer a rich environment for knowledge development and exchange where to develop a scientific career, and possibilities for professional promotion according to the attained achievements. Check our initiatives [here](#).

Researcher in Poultry and Rabbit welfare for the Animal Welfare Program

[ref. 178/24]

IRTA is currently seeking an enthusiastic and motivated Researcher with a PhD related to Veterinary Science or related Animal Sciences to join the [Animal Welfare Program](#). We invite applications from ambitious candidates with relevant research experience in Poultry and Rabbit Welfare with expertise in laying hens and broilers welfare on farm, transport and at slaughter.

-  Head of the Program: Dr Antoni Velarde
-  Job location: [IRTA Monells](#)
-  Full-time position: 37.5 h/week
-  Terms of appointment: permanent position or IRTA Consolida (tenure track) position subject to the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate.
-  Gross Annual Salary: to be resolved according to the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate.
-  Employee Benefits: 22 vacation days, 3 days of family & work conciliation, 45h of personal days, Friday afternoon off, Compressed Summer schedule from 15/06 to 15/09, Conciliation schedule.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Lead and coordinate the research on poultry species and rabbit behaviour and welfare at IRTA.
- Lead, plan and/or participate in the design and planning of future research activities on poultry and rabbit welfare, including grant applications to both national and international competitive research calls.
- Promote high scientific and technological impact projects.
- Conduct/contribute to the activities of the EU Reference Centre for the welfare of poultry and other small, farm animals.
- Collaborate with the researchers of other Programs to integrate elements of health, nutrition, reproduction and animal husbandry.
- Provide technical support in poultry and rabbit welfare to regional, national and EU administrations as requested.
- Supervise PhD candidates and technical personnel that will support the research projects.
- Contribute to the positioning the Animal Welfare Program as groups of excellence through regular peer-reviewed publications, contributions at national and international conferences and workshops.

- Strengthen the research collaboration between IRTA and other national and international research groups in the framework of animal behaviour and animal welfare.
- Actively disseminate research findings through appropriate forum and to ensure maximum impact.

Required qualifications and experience:

- PhD degree in Veterinary Science or related Animal Sciences.
- Proven experience on poultry or rabbit behaviour and welfare research.
- A track record of scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals.
- Excellent organizational capability and successfully work within multidisciplinary teams.
- Teamwork skills and ability to establish and build relationships that will allow pursuing the objectives of the R&D activities.
- Ability to establish strategic alliances with other R&D national and international teams as well as the productive sector.
- Good oral communication and writing skills.
- Drive licence type B and availability for travelling.

Desirable requirements:

- Proven leadership in poultry or rabbit behaviour and welfare research.
- Proven track record with demonstrable leadership in successful peer reviewed grant funding from national and international funding bodies
- Experience in leading or participating in international research projects.
- Experience in directing and supervising graduate and post-graduate students and young researchers.
- Experience in transferring results on poultry and rabbit behaviour and welfare research to the stakeholders from the public and private sector.
- Networking with national and international research organisations, academia, competent authorities, associations, and producers.

Languages:

- Proficiency of English.
- Spanish and Catalan will be valued.

Application process

If you wish to be considered for this position, please, apply via our [Recruitment Platform](#) to the job post with reference 178/24 and upload your CV and motivation letter. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**Deadline for application:
06/01/2025**

Timings in the Recruitment Process of ref. 178/24 Researcher in Poultry and Rabbit welfare for the Animal Welfare Program

50 natural days	Publication and diffusion of the job advertisement on IRTA's website, EURAXESS Jobs, social media and other specific recruitment places.
5 following working days	Distribution of the pre-selected CVs which matching eligibility criteria to the Recruitment Committee. Communication via e-mail with the not pre-selected candidates who will not be further included in the process.
20 following working days	Recruitment Committee: - Communication via e-mail with the not-selected candidates by the Recruitment Committee. - Interview with selected candidates by the Recruitment Committee. - Accord of the Recruitment Committee stating the selected candidate and detailed reasoning for the decline of the rest of the candidates. - Communication via e-mail with the interviewed and not-selected candidates
10 following working days	Provision by the selected candidate of requested legal and official documentation to the HR department to coordinate the start of the candidate.
First Trimester 2025	Start of employment

IRTA guarantees an open, transparent, and merit-based recruitment process (OTM-R) to all registered candidacies avoiding thus any bias on gender, origin, age, ideology, or other circumstances that could be discriminatory. Candidates in a situation of social exclusion will be considered in the first place.

Please know that if you are the chosen candidate and you are from a country which does not belong to the UE, IRTA's Human Resources Department will support you to get the residence and working permits.