



Internship Opportunity: OMICS BREEDING Research for Master's Students at the World Vegetable Center

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) invites applications from enthusiastic Master's students for an internship in OMICS BREEDING, based at WorldVeg headquarters in Taiwan.

The WorldVeg is a non-profit, autonomous international agricultural research center with its headquarters in Taiwan and regional offices across Africa and Asia. The Center conducts research and development programs aimed at unlocking the full potential of vegetables to support healthier diets and more resilient livelihoods worldwide. The selected intern will join the OMICS BREEDING team and contribute to the Climate Resilience Action Area. The internship will involve hands-on research at WorldVeg headquarters, focusing on high-throughput genotyping and/or phenotyping of Brassica leafy vegetables to advance understanding of genetic mechanisms related to heat tolerance.

Internship Opportunity

- Application Deadline: 16 February 2026
- Expected Online Interview Date: End of February 2026
- Expected Start Date: June/July 2026
- Duration: 6 months (with possible extension)
- Location: WorldVeg headquarters, Shanhua, Tainan, Taiwan

Working Project

Development of an AI-phenotype-based prediction model for field heat tolerance in summer Chinese cabbage for climate-smart agriculture

Project Background

The WorldVeg Omics Breeding team has extensive expertise in applying high-throughput genotyping and phenotyping to capture trait diversity and contribute to the development of climate-resilient vegetable crops. Building on a strong collaboration between WorldVeg and the Rural Development Administration (RDA) of Korea, this internship is part of an expanding international effort to advance omics-based breeding of Chinese cabbage.

Climate change, particularly rising temperatures and frequent heatwaves, is increasingly threatening cabbage production, a cool-season crop highly sensitive to



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heat stress. Current varieties show limited adaptability under high-temperature conditions, and traditional breeding approaches alone are insufficient to address these challenges. By integrating multi-location phenotypic data with genomic information, this project aims to accelerate the identification of heat-tolerant breeding materials.

The internship will support the development of a digital breeding platform using advanced phenotyping tools, omics datasets, and data-driven approaches, contributing to sustainable, climate-smart cabbage breeding through international collaboration.

Who Can Apply?

- Master's students currently enrolled in Plant Science, Genetics, Biotechnology, Bioinformatics, Agronomy, or closely related disciplines
- Applicants with a demonstrated interest in plant stress biology, genomics, and/or phenotyping
- Highly motivated candidates who are eager to learn, collaborate, and contribute in a research-focused environment
- Prior laboratory or data analysis experience is an advantage but not required

You Will Gain

- Hands-on training in high-throughput genotyping technologies and genomic data analysis
- Practical experience with advanced phenotyping methods for heat stress evaluation
- Skills in integrating and analyzing genetic and phenotypic datasets
- Experience working in a collaborative, multidisciplinary research environment
- Enhanced research capacity and professional profile to support future academic or research-oriented careers

We Will Offer

- Access to high-performance, workstation-level computing resources for genomic data processing and analysis
- Access to multispectral sensing platforms to support advanced phenotyping and data acquisition
- Opportunities to present research findings through poster or oral presentations at relevant scientific conferences
- Participation in capacity-building workshops and training activities hosted by WorldVeg



Internship Benefits:

- Stipend: US\$500/month (to support food and leisure)
- Accommodation: On-campus housing at WorldVeg HQ
- Insurance: Coverage for travel, health, and accidents
- Transportation: Round-trip economy transportation tickets from your education base to WorldVeg Headquarters

The project will cover all research and experimental costs, and the student will have an opportunity to learn from and contribute to other ongoing research projects in OMICS BREEDING at WorldVeg.

Application Process

Please submit the completed application form, along with all required supporting documents, in English via email to: training@worldveg.org. In addition, one letter of recommendation from your academic advisor or a professor at your university should be sent directly by the referee to the same email address.

Please make sure your application is complete and submitted by the stated deadline, as incomplete or late applications cannot be considered. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview. If you have any questions about this internship opportunity, feel free to reach out to Dr. Ya-Ping Lin at ya-ping.lin@worldveg.org.