



*The Norwegian Centre for Organic Agriculture is a private foundation, located in Tingvoll in northwestern Norway. Its main goal is to promote the development of organic agriculture. NORSØK is a national centre of expertise and fulfills its mission by performing R&D activities, disseminating knowledge and providing advisory services on organic agriculture, organic food and renewable energy. The foundation's work is based on the four principles of organic agriculture: health, ecology, fairness and care, in accordance with the definition by IFOAM Organics International. NORSØK has a staff of 18, and cooperates closely with other research institutions and advisory services.*

## PhD Fellowship: Plant Nutrient Supply in Organic Agriculture

A three-year PhD fellowship on the use of recycled marine resources as fertilizers in organic farming is available at the Norwegian Centre for Organic Agriculture. Starting date: 01 January 2018.

The position is linked to the project «*Marine Rest Raw Materials as Fertilizers in Organic Agriculture (RESTOR)*»

### **About the project:**

Conventional poultry manure is currently used as a commercial fertilizer in organic production. However, a better alternative might be to recycle nutrients in organic wastes. A considerable amount of nutrients end up in the sea. The RESTOR project will study if rest raw materials derived from marine industry can be combined into a compound fertilizer suitable for organic agriculture. Raw materials that are readily available in Møre og Romsdal county include residues from alginate production and hydrolysis of fish proteins.

The project aims to:

- Assess the amounts and composition of regionally accessible marine rest raw materials that can be suitable for fertilizer production.
- Select appropriate rest raw materials and examine these in terms of chemical properties, decomposition rate, plant nutrient availability, effect on soil physical parameters, processing methods and environmental impact.
- Carry out field trials in cereals.

The project will be carried out in cooperation between NORSØK, NTNU, RISE in Sweden and a selection of industrial partners. NTNU will be responsible for the supervision of the PhD fellow.

**Required qualifications:*****Academic qualifications:***

- The applicant must hold a degree equivalent to a Norwegian MSc degree in soil science, plant science, environmental chemistry or similar.
- An applicant must meet the [conditions for admission to a PhD programme at NTNU](http://www.ntnu.edu/nv/phd/admission) (see <http://www.ntnu.edu/nv/phd/admission> ).

Previous working experience and relevant additional education are an asset.

**Other requirements:**

- Proficiency in oral and written English

***Personal qualifications***

Candidates must:

- Be motivated for pursuing a research career
- Have a high work capacity and the ability to accomplish goals
- Be able to work independently and efficiently
- Possess good interpersonal and communication skills

**NORSØK offers:**

- A good and stimulating working environment
- Challenging and independent assignments
- Pension scheme in the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund
- Various welfare schemes
- Assistance in finding housing

**Terms of employment:**

Salary in accordance with current salary scale (minimum NOK 436 000)

**Further information:**

For further information about the position please contact Director Turid Strøm, tel +47 407 69 922, email: [turid.strom@norsok.no](mailto:turid.strom@norsok.no) or Senior Research Scientist Anne-Kristin Løes, tel +47 404 79 962, email [anne-kristin.loes@norsok.no](mailto:anne-kristin.loes@norsok.no)

**Application:**

Applications must include CV, educational certificates, grade transcripts and recommendation letters. Applications with attachments are to be submitted by Email to [post@norsok.no](mailto:post@norsok.no)

**Application deadline: 10 November 2017**