

Food forestry on historic estates in Flanders

In the context of ongoing research activities on the redevelopment of historic estates, the University College Ghent has investigated the potential of food forestry on historic estates in Flanders.

Currently we are involved in two pilot projects in which, for the first time in Flanders, food forests will be integrated within the setting of a historic estate.

The design phase for the development of a food forest is critically important and urges for a thorough knowledge on different aspects such as forest ecology, agro-ecology, different plant species as well as different management practices.

This is a unique opportunity for an internship student who wants to fully work on the design on different types of food forests. Through the 'real life' casus of one or two historic estates and in close collaboration with estate managers and other specialists, you will get a thorough understanding on this topic and develop new skills.

What we have to offer:

- You will be working within the research unit on landscape architecture in which you can get a good understanding of design practice as applied to food forestry.
- You will have supervisors with already a good understanding of food forestry.
- You get to work on a real life casus, you get the time to do field analyses, to delve into the relevant literature on food forestry and to work on different design proposals.
- You get to participate in relevant meetings on food forestry.
- A workshop for bachelor students landscape architecture on this topic will also take place in which you may take part in the supervision.

What we expect from you:

- We can guide you through the process and point you towards the right approaches and useful resources, but, in time, you will also need to be able to work independently.
- You do not need to have any prior deep knowledge on food forestry, but a keen interest to learn more about all related aspects of food forestry is needed.
- You have a background in a related field of interest such as organic agriculture, nature management or landscape architecture.

If you are interested please send your motivation letter and resume to steven.heyde@hogent.be, preferably already in September 2019.

