

LIVIA

AUTONOMOUS CROP INTELLIGENCE FOR VINEYARDS & HIGH-VALUE CROPS

We are hiring a crop scientist in the US

Agronomy & Crop Science Research Associate

Boston preferred · Hybrid or remote

Part-time or full-time

Start: November 2026

Salary + equity

Who we are

About LIVIA

LIVIA is building the first autonomous crop intelligence platform for vineyards and other high-value crops. We combine autonomous drones, solar-powered docking stations, satellite data and a multi-agent AI decision layer to give growers something they have never had: a continuously updated, field-level picture of what is actually happening in their crops.

We are currently running pilots with two vineyards in Cyprus, backed by Letters of Intent from many more growers and partners, and hold a Letter of Support from the Cyprus Ministry of Agriculture. We took 1st Place for European Innovation of the Year at GEN-E Europe 2026 and won the FedEx Access Award, and we are part of the Bank of Cyprus IDEA Accelerator 2026 cycle. Paid pilots begin in March 2027, with full commercial rollout in January 2028.

The founding team comes from MIT, Rice University, Imperial College London and the University of Amsterdam. We are small, fast, and about to scale from pilots into a real commercial product across Cyprus, the US and Southern Europe.

You would make sure our AI gets the plants right.

AT A GLANCE

LOCATION

Boston preferred
Hybrid or remote (US)

START DATE

November 2026
Part-time or full-time

COMPENSATION

Salary + equity
Scaled to education
and experience

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

18 October 2026
23:59 ET
Rolling review

The Role

This is a research role for a crop scientist who wants their work to leave the lab and change what happens in the field.

LIVIA does not just take pictures of crops. It tells growers what is going on and what to do about it, and every model, recommendation and alert we send has to be scientifically right. You will be the person who makes sure it is. You will work very closely with our CTO, Theofanis Orfanou, on the algorithms behind our crop health, water stress and disease detection, and report directly to our CEO.

We want you at the front of the research: testing what the literature says, designing the trials that prove it, and pushing our system into new questions. We started in vineyards and are expanding into olives and other high-value crops, so breadth matters as much as depth.

Master's and PhD students are especially welcome, and the role can be part-time or full-time, in Boston, hybrid or remote.

Day to day

What You'll Do

Algorithm Validation

CORE OF THE ROLE

Work with our CTO to make sure our crop health, water stress and disease models — and the recommendations and alerts built on them — are agronomically sound. Challenge assumptions, set thresholds, and decide when the system should, and should not, raise an alarm.

Research & Development

Stay at the forefront of the science. Review the literature, test new indicators from multispectral, thermal and satellite imagery, and turn promising ideas into features we can build.

Field Trials & Ground Truth

Design trials and measurement protocols — plant water status, disease scouting, yield and quality sampling — that let us check what the drone sees against what is really happening in the plant.

Recommendations & Decision Rules

Translate plant physiology and good agronomic practice into clear advice a grower can act on: irrigation, disease risk, canopy management and harvest timing.

Expanding to New Crops

Lead the scientific groundwork for moving beyond vineyards, starting with olives: what matters for each crop, what can be measured from the air, and what growers actually need to know.

Research Partnerships & Writing

Contribute to research proposals, grant applications and technical reports, and help build our relationships with universities, extension specialists and grower organisations.

What We're Looking For

ESSENTIAL

- A **Master's or PhD student**, or recent graduate, in agronomy, plant science, horticulture, crop science, plant biology, environmental science or a related field. **Bachelor's graduates** with real field experience are also welcome.
- A solid understanding of **plant physiology and crop stress** — water, heat, nutrients and disease.
- **Hands-on field or research experience**: trials, sampling, measurements or scouting.
- Comfortable working with data — spreadsheets at minimum, ideally R or Python.
- Clear, careful scientific writing in **English**.
- Based in the US, with the **Boston area preferred**.

NICE TO HAVE

- Remote sensing, GIS or vegetation indices (measures of plant health calculated from imagery).
- Experience with vineyards, olives, orchards or other perennial crops.
- Plant pathology or irrigation science.
- A thesis or published research in a related area.
- Experience working with drone or satellite imagery.

WHAT MATTERS MORE THAN ANY OF THE ABOVE

You care whether something is actually true, you can explain the science to a grower in plain words, and you are comfortable saying "we don't know yet — here is how we find out."

The offer

What We Offer

- **Salary scaled to your education level, experience and time commitment**, agreed with you as part of the offer.
- **Meaningful equity in LIVIA.** You are one of our first hires and we want you to own a piece of what you help build.
- **Flexible working.** Part-time or full-time; Boston-based, hybrid or remote.
- A real say in what we research and build, with your science going straight into a product growers use.
- Close, daily work with our CTO and direct reporting to our CEO, with no layers in between.
- Research across vineyards, olives and other high-value crops, in Cyprus, the US and Southern Europe.
- A role that can grow into **leading our agronomy and research work** as we scale.

Next step

How to Apply

Apply through our website:

www.altirastronomy.com/livia#apply

It takes about five minutes. This is an expression of interest, not a long application: tell us about your background and research, and if it looks like a fit we will set up a call.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

23:59 ET, Sunday 18 October 2026

We review applications on a rolling basis and may close earlier if we find the right person. Applying early is to your advantage.

The process

- 1 A short expression-of-interest form.
- 2 A 30-minute introductory call.
- 3 A research conversation where you walk us through a project you have worked on.
- 4 A final conversation with the founders.

Questions before you apply? Email livia@altirastronomy.com