Organization: University of Florida, Agronomy Department, Crop Biotechnology Research Program
Location: Gainesville, FL 32611
United States
Organization Type: Academia

Opportunity: Sugarcane is the prime feedstock to fuel the emerging bio-economy due to its superior photosynthetic efficiency and biomass accumulation. The Crop Biotechnology Research Program at the University of Florida, headed by Fredy Altpeter, is expanding its effort in genome editing and metabolic engineering of sugarcane to improve crop performance and quality in collaboration with the newly funded DOE Bioenergy Science Center https://cabbi.bio/research/feedstocks-theme/. The successful candidate will deploy well-established CRISPR/Cas9 based genome editing https://cabbi.bio/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/DOE-Altpeter-poster-02-21-2018.pdf and transgenic approaches https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/pbi.12411 for metabolic engineering of sugarcane and characterize genetically modified events under controlled environment conditions. The postdoctoral researcher will also engage in developing advanced enabling technologies for crop improvement.

Experience: We are seeking for a highly motivated individual with extensive experience in plant genetic engineering and molecular biology to join our team. Desired skills also include analysis of RNAseq data to inform modular design and construction of complex vectors, plant tissue culture, gene transfer, molecular characterization of transgenic plants. Knowledge in plant synthetic biology, metabolism, physiology and genomic regulation are also important. This work requires excellent interpersonal and communication skills in English as well as excellent writing skills as demonstrated by a strong publication record in peer-reviewed journals. Recent graduates are encouraged to apply.

How to Apply: Please email your resume, cover letter, and contact information of 3 references to the PI at altpeter@ufl.edu. Non-US residents please provide their current type of visa and when first issued. We will sponsor J1 visa application for the selected candidate. University of Florida is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as an individual with a disability, or status as a protected veteran.

Starting Salary and Term: $47,500 plus benefits. The initial contract is 12 months and is annually renewable for up to 4 years depending on the candidates’ performance and eligibility to work in the United States and continued grant funding.

Starting Date: Between 2/15/2019 and 4/15/2019

Initial Deadline for Application: 2/15/2019 and may be extended until a suitable candidate is identified.