Organization: University of Florida, Agronomy Department, Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program

2 Positions: Laboratory Technician I (TEAMS), Grass Biotechnology

Position number: 509867; 509869

Location: Gainesville, FL 32611, United States

Starting pay scale: $ 12.00-16.00/hour commensurate with experience

Description: The Plant Molecular Physiology lab at University of Florida, headed by Fredy Altpeter (http://agronomy.ifas.ufl.edu/faculty/fredy-altpeter/) is seeking a highly motivated laboratory technician with experience in plant genetic engineering, molecular biology and project management to join our team. The research program focuses on genetic improvement of grasses by non-regulated biotech approaches to enhance crop performance and is funded by industry and federal agencies. The position requires working 40 hours per week, which includes some weekends. We are looking for individuals with exceptional performance skills, such as: self-motivation, attention to detail, honesty, dependability, adaptability, must be able to lift 50lbs. These openings are within the Teams employment category at the University of Florida and details on the comprehensive benefit package can be found here https://benefits.hr.ufl.edu/my-benefits/explore/eligibility/teams-usps/

The successful candidate will use a well established biolistic transformation protocol for the introduction of constructs into grasses and characterize genetically modified events under controlled environment conditions. Examples of specific tasks: initiating and monitoring plant tissue cultures under aseptic conditions, regeneration of plants from tissue cultures and transfer to soil, preparation of culture media, using and monitoring laboratory instrumentation, collecting and handling samples from greenhouse or field grown plants, DNA isolation, PCR, electrophoresis, qRT-PCR, extensive documentation, project review, report preparation.

Minimum Requirements:
Associate Degree in an appropriate area; or a high school diploma or equivalent and two years of related experience. Appropriate college course work or vocational/technical training may substitute at an equivalent rate for the required experience.

Preferred Qualifications:
At least 1 year experience with plant tissue culture techniques, including donor plant management, excision of meristematic explants under aseptic conditions, induction of embryogenesis from totipotent cells, selection of embryogenic cells, regeneration of embryogenic tissues to plants, molecular analysis of transgenic plants including PCR, ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay), immune-chromatography, establishment of transgenic plants in soil. Ability to trouble-shoot experimental problems and work independently and in a team is important. We will support J1 visa applications. This work requires excellent interpersonal and communication skills in English as well as excellent writing skills. Recent graduates are encouraged to apply.

How to apply: In order to be considered, you must upload your cover letter and resume at http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/509869/laboratory-technician-i-agron and/or http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/509867/laboratory-technician-i-agron

Application must be submitted by 11:55 p.m. (ET) on Feb 12th, 2019.

This position is eligible for veteran’s preference. If you are claiming veteran’s preference, please upload a copy of your DD 214 Member Copy 4 with your application for consideration. See our Veteran's Preference Page for more specific information.