Organization: University of Florida, Agronomy Department, Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program
Position: Laboratory Technician (OPS), Grass Biotechnology
Location: Gainesville, FL 32611, United States

Starting pay scale: $ 10.00-15.00/hour depending on relevant 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 OPS employment category at the University of Florida and details on the type of employment and benefits can be found here http://hr.ufl.edu/working-at-uf/new-employees/temporary-employment-ops/

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.

Degree requirement: B.S. or M.S. in plant science or related discipline.

Experience: Extensive experience with plant tissue culture and molecular characterization of transgenic plants is required. Training in well established genetic transformation protocols will be provided. 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: Please email your resume, cover letter, and contact information of 3 references as well as US-visa history (what type of visa and when received) to the PI at altpeter@ufl.edu. 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. Application review will begin immediately and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

Selected publications related to this position: