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

Positions: Biological Scientist III Crop Biotechnology

Location: Gainesville, FL 32611, United States

Description: The Crop Biotechnology Research Program at the University of Florida, headed by Fredy Altpeter (http://agronomy.ifas.ufl.edu/faculty/fredy-altpeter/) is seeking a highly motivated Biological Scientist IV.

The Biological Scientist III will play a critical role in all aspects of biotechnology research for improvement of sugarcane, collection and compilation of data, field trial planning and execution within the crop biotechnology program at the University of Florida-IFAS.

- In conjunction with project leader, define research objectives and design plant molecular biology and plant biotechnology experiments that are required to meet the objectives and contribute to the development of grant proposals to attract external funding. Studies will include laboratory, greenhouse, growth chamber, and field projects.
- Train and supervise undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral research associates, and visiting scientists in methods of plant molecular biology, plant physiology and plant management as well as the proper and safe use of laboratory greenhouse and field equipment.
- Independently carry out well-designed experiments using plant molecular biology, plant physiology and plant tissue culture techniques. Collect, analyze, and prepare data for the purpose of laboratory reports, presentation of posters or papers at the appropriate scientific meetings, publication of abstracts and manuscripts and to aid in the design of future experiments.
- Conduct literature reviews of relevant research topics.
- Order, appropriately store and monitor the appropriate use of all chemicals, enzymes, radioisotopes, pesticides, field and greenhouse supplies, equipment, and all other biological and non-biological supplies needed for the research. Maintain a detailed record of all laboratory inventory, pesticide use and use of radioisotopes.
- Ensure proper maintenance and functioning of all laboratory, growth chamber, greenhouse and field equipment. Perform or direct staff in necessary lab and greenhouse and growth chamber maintenance and safety functions such as autoclaving of tissue culture media, pipette tips and microfuge tubes, as well as preparation of laboratory stock solutions, and handling of field, laboratory and greenhouse material, providing the required growth environments for tissue cultures or plants.
- Write papers and grant proposals

Minimum Requirements:
Doctoral degree in biology or a closely related field and two years of relevant experience; or a master s degree in biology or a closely related field and five years of relevant experience; or a bachelor s degree in biology or a closely related field and seven years of relevant experience.

Preferred Qualifications:
A PhD in plant science or related area with relevant postdoctoral experience is preferred. Extensive experience with plant molecular biology techniques including, processing and evaluation of Next generation sequencing (NGS) data, modular cloning of multigene vectors, gene transfer, stable expression of transgenes in plants including monocots, Polymerase chain reaction (PCR), Southern, Quantitative PCR (qPCR), Western blot analysis is desired. Knowledge of current plant molecular biology, plant physiology and advanced plant breeding techniques including genome editing is essential. This includes knowledge of greenhouse, field and laboratory safety procedures and experience with plant breeding or plant management under field conditions. Ability to
trouble-shoot experimental problems and work independently and in a team is essential. Excellent communication skills and a solid publication record are required.

**How to apply:** Online application site for job number 510194 can be found here: [http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/510194/biological-scientist-iii-agronomy-dr-altpeter](http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/510194/biological-scientist-iii-agronomy-dr-altpeter)

In order to be considered you need to upload your cover letter and resume.

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.

**Annual Salary:** $47,000 - $55,000 annually; Commensurate with education and experience and includes benefits.

**Initial deadline for application:** Application review will begin immediately and will close March 25th 2019.

**Selected publications related to this position:**

