Organization: University of Florida, Agronomy Department, Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program
Positions: Biological Scientist IV 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 IV will play a critical role in coordinating 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.

- Manage a project team and monitor the quality of the team’s work; coordinate the work of other scientists, technicians, and graduate students and train them in methods of plant molecular biology, plant physiology, plant tissue culture, genome editing and plant management as well as the proper and safe use of laboratory greenhouse and field equipment and evaluate the accuracy of their results.

- In conjunction with Principal Investigator, define research objectives and design plant molecular biology and crop 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.

- 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.

- Keep abreast of technological advances, changes/enhancements in research studies and standards, current research findings, instrumentation, and software by reading scientific literature pertinent to the research area and attending professional conferences

- Write grant proposals and papers

Minimum Requirements:
Doctoral degree in biology or a closely related field and eight years of relevant experience.

Preferred Qualifications:
A PhD in plant science or related area with successful leadership experience in industry or academia is preferred. Experience in the field of crop biotechnology. Extensive experience with processing and evaluation of NGS data, plant tissue culture techniques including monocots and protoplasts, plant molecular biology techniques including, modular cloning of multigene vectors, various gene transfer and genome editing methods, stable expression of transgenes in monocots, molecular characterization of plants (e.g. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR), Southern-blotting, Quantitative PCR (qPCR), digital PCR, 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 demonstrated success in leading a project team are essential. Excellent communication skills and extensive publication record in peer reviewed journals are required.

**How to apply:** Online application site for job number 510192 can be found here: [http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/510192/biological-scientist-iv-agronomy-dr-altpeter](http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/510192/biological-scientist-iv-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:** $55,000 - $75,000 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:**


