Field Trials Manager
Institute for Genomic Biology
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Job Description
This position will be responsible for managing the Germplasm Seed and root (Cassava) Depository. This post will also oversee the design, planting, monitoring and final yields of transformed materials from Gates/RIPE Project Objectives 1-5 in replicated side-by-side trials of tobacco, cassava (initial) and grain legumes on the South Farms of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. This position will be responsible for curation of all plant material used by the project, data from trials, statistical analysis and reporting and will manage and monitor 15 growth chambers the position will also be responsible for the supervision of undergraduate students performing research and field work.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities
1. Design and lead field trials employing environmental treatments:
    1.1. The Field Trials Manager will have the responsibility to design and lead field trails on several species of plants that have been engineered for improved photosynthetic performance. The trail design must be based on expert accepted concepts of replication, control of variation among plots and randomization, estimation of error variance and unbiased estimates of means and variance requiring advanced training in field research and advanced knowledge of statistics and analysis of variance.
    1.2. Because most of the field trail work will be conducted with transgenic plants, the incumbent is required to have an advanced knowledge of the Federal Plant Pest Act that gives APHIS the authority to determine whether a transgenic plant variety containment requirements. It will be the incumbent's responsibility to determine what level of APHIS permission and certification is needed, obtain the permissions and certifications and to establish the required containment.
    1.3. Weed and pest control is extremely important in these field trails and the incumbent must have advanced understanding of the mode of action of these chemical agents and be licensed and certified to apply restricted use pesticides and herbicides.

2. Field environmental monitoring:
    2.1. The Field Trials Manager will have the responsibility to design a robust system for environmental monitoring and data collection at multiple locations within the field testing plots. This requires that the incumbent have extensive experience with modern sensor technology and data logger programming.

3. Design and monitoring of environmental growth chamber experiments:
    3.1. The incumbent will have the responsibility to design and monitor controlled environment growth chamber experiments. The trail design must be based on expert accepted concepts of replication, control of variation among chambers and randomization, estimation of error variance and unbiased estimates of means and variance requiring advanced training in replication design and advanced knowledge of statistics and analysis of variance.

3.2. The incumbent will also be responsible for monitoring the operation of 15 sophisticated controlled environment chambers requiring knowledge of computer programming and control analysis.

4. Supervision:
   4.1. The Field Trials Manager will be required to supervise undergraduates conducting research and farm duties.
   4.2. The incumbent will be responsible for selecting the best qualified candidate, provide orientation and training as required, determine the duties to be performed by the undergraduates, assign duties, and evaluate performance.
   4.3. In addition, the Field Trials Manager will approve time records and requests for time off.

Minimum Qualifications

B.S. in Plant Science or related field. Strong statistical background is required. Demonstrated skills in sensor technology are required. Restricted-Use Pesticide training and certification is required. Strong oral and written communication skills coupled with the ability to work independently and cooperatively are required. Preference will be given to applicants with prior experience in conducting field experiments. Previous research experience in photosynthesis is also desired.

Salary will be commensurate with training and experience. This is a full-time academic, non-tenure track position funded by grant monies on a year-to-year basis. The proposed starting date is as soon as possible after the close date.

Please create your candidate profile at http://jobs.illinois.edu and upload your letter of interest (including email address), resume and contact information for three professional letters of reference by June 3, 2013. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered. For further information regarding application procedures, you may contact Kim Johnson, kljohns@igb.uiuc.edu.

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