POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

JOB TITLE: Field and Laboratory Technician

JOB DESCRIPTION: The successful applicant will provide technical support for a NSF-funded Plant Genome grant that investigates genetic and genomic variation in maize tolerance to ozone. Duties in the laboratory include routine techniques such as making stock solutions for biochemical assays, operating an automatic fluid dispensing system, extraction and quantification of DNA, RNA and proteins, PCR, and sample preparation for quantitative PCR and RNA-seq. Duties in the field include construction and maintenance of research plots, weeding, supervising undergraduate field assistants, taking crop development measurements and assisting with other field phenotyping efforts. This position will support a NSF Plant Genome funded research grant.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Specific duties will include:

- Perform independent and team based genomics, biochemical and physiological research, including but not limited to: preparation of plant samples for extraction and analysis of DNA, RNA, protein, carbohydrates and antioxidants
- Monitor field experiments for crop development, weed outbreaks, proper performance of ozone fumigation equipment
- Hire, train and daily supervision of hourly employees
- Assist with outreach efforts to engage Jr. High School students with genomics research

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must have at least a BS (MS degree preferred) in Biology, Crop Sciences or a related field. Candidates must have proven ability to collaborate effectively with large research teams and operate specialized laboratory equipment. Candidates must have the ability to work in heat and humidity and possession of an Illinois driver’s license.

Desired: Demonstrated experience in molecular biology and genomics techniques, and demonstrated experience monitoring the development of crops in the field. Experience interviewing, hiring and training undergraduate research associates.

Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. This position is a 12-month, 100% time academic professional appointment with regular University benefits. The proposed starting date is negotiable after the close date.

Please create your candidate profile at http://jobs.illinois.edu and upload your resume and contact information for three professional letters of reference by February 29, 2016. Applicants may be interviewed before the closing date; however, no hiring decision will be made until after that date. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered. For further information regarding the application procedures, you may contact Kim Johnson, kljohns@igb.uiuc.edu.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer. Illinois is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, status as a protected veteran, status as a qualified individual with a disability, or criminal conviction history. Illinois welcomes individuals with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and ideas who embrace and value diversity and inclusivity. (www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu).