The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer that recruits and hires qualified candidates without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, disability or veteran status. For more information, visit http://go.illinois.edu/EEO.

Serve as Manager and Research Developer for the CTF pipeline of transformations in tobacco and soybean. They will research the viability of CRISPR gene editing as a means to up-regulate the expression of key photosynthetic genes. They will train and supervise a team of technicians and undergraduates in construct development, genetic transformation, regeneration of plants through to greenhouse culture, and provide confirmation of transformation through sequencing and expression analysis.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Task Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Research the use of CRISPR gene editing as a means to up-regulate expression of critical photosynthetic genes; initially violaxanthin de-epoxidase, PsbS and zeaxanthin epoxidase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Develop and maintain a working scheme that interconnects order submission, construct assembly, and plant transformation for RIPE transgenic projects, and oversee QA/QC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Direct and supervise the work of technicians and undergraduate helpers at all points in the transformation pipeline from construct development to delivery of transformed material to the greenhouse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Facilitate and maintain transparency in workflows and communicate timelines for deliverables.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Adapt pipelines according to findings from Transformation Development where these will increase transformation efficiency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Create and maintain an inclusive and accepting work environment at a new facility.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

POSITION REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Education:

- **Required:** Masters degree in Plant Science, or closely related plant/crop biology field.
- **Preferred:** Masters level degree in Plant Molecular Biology, Plant Genetics or very closely related field.

Experience:

- **Required:** Plant DNA sequencing, construct assembly and Agrobacterium-mediated transformation.
- **Preferred:** Golden Gate Loop Assembly, Transient Expression Systems, CRISPR DNA editing.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- **Required:** Knowledge about photosynthesis, synthetic biology, organization of nuclear and plastid DNA, and its modification. Excellence in reporting and ensuring quality control and assurance in your work and that of those you supervise.
- **Preferred:** High-throughput methods of construct assembly and plant transformation. Regulation of genetically modified plants.
Environmental Demands: Laboratory-based work with non-hazardous materials.

Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications

Appointment Status: Full-time academic professional, grant-supported appointment renewable annually pending continued funding and satisfactory progress within the position. Qualified individuals will be eligible to receive vacation, sick, and personal leave; retirement through the State Universities Retirement System; and group health, dental, vision and life insurance.

Start Date: As soon as possible after the close date.

TO APPLY: Applications must be received by February 16, 2021. To apply, all candidates must submit an online profile through https://jobs.illinois.edu by the close of the posting period. Interviews may be conducted prior to the closing date; however, a hiring decision will not be made until after the closing date. Qualified candidates must upload a letter of which details qualifications noted above, resume and the names and contact information of three professional references. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. For further information about this specific position, Jacinda King (jkking@illinois.edu). For questions about the application process, please contact 217-333-2137.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer. The University of Illinois System requires candidates selected for hire to disclose any documented finding of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment and to authorize inquiries to current and former employers regarding findings of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. For more information, visit Policy on Consideration of Sexual Misconduct in Prior Employment. As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System uses E-Verify to verify employment eligibility.