The primary function of this position is to manage and conduct the transformation of C4 crops and the maintenance of the transformed plants.

**MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Managing and conducting the transformation of C4 crops, development of improved transformation methods – together with quality control and quality assurance. (50%)
- Manage the production and maintenance of plants resulting from the above. Conduct laboratory and field molecular phenotyping of these plants, and assist with physiological/production phenotyping. (50%)

**POSITION REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Education:**

- **Required:** Ph.D. in Plant Molecular Biology

**Experience:**

- **Required:** More than ten years of experience in the genetic engineering of a range of plants and crops.

**Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

- **Required:** Demonstrated experience in both biolistic and Agrobacterium mediated transformation of a range of plants. Development of overexpression and RNAi transformation vectors. Practical experience of PCR, qRT-PCR, RNA-seq and Southern blots. Experience in managing genetic transformation of plants coupled with QA & QC of the products. Demonstrated record of communication of research through presentations and peer-reviewed publications.
- **Preferred:** Demonstrated experience of genetic transformation of C4 crops/model systems. Demonstrated experience in the development of transplastomic plants from engineered changes in the plastid genome. Experience in physiological phenotyping of transformed plants. US Driver's License.

**Environmental Demands:** Willing to work in our field facilities to collect material and conduct field trials of transformed crop material.

**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.

Hire date is as soon as possible after closing date.
Applications must be received by December 30, 2020. 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, Lisa Emerson (lemerson@illinois.edu). For questions about the application process, please contact 217-333-2137.

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

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer.

As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System uses E-Verify to verify employment eligibility.

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.