

Description

The Research Technician for greenhouse management and breeding assistance is a full-time term position, with an initial six-month probationary period. The approximate start date of the position is January 15th, 2019, with an end date of August 31, 2020. There is the possibility of the term being extended based on satisfactory performance and availability of research funding.

Salary Information:

The salary range for the position is \$35,000 to \$50,000 annually; the salary offered to the selected candidate will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Primary Purpose:

The Global Institute for Food Security is recruiting for a Research Technician in greenhouse management and breeding assistance in the Seed and Developmental Biology research group. The incumbent will provide analytical and computational support for research groups in the laboratories of Prof. Dr. Timothy F. Sharbel, GIFS Research Chair in Seed Biology, University of Saskatchewan campus.

Typical Duties/Accountabilities:

The incumbent will be involved in a range of research projects with plant physiologists, geneticists, molecular biologists and greenhouse personnel. These projects focus on the breeding of apomixis into crop plants. Under the direction of the postdoctoral fellow/research scientist the duties will include, but are not limited to, management of plants in the greenhouse and growth chambers including planting, watering, managing growth conditions (e.g. vernalization), emasculations, pollinations, and seed harvest, cleanup and storage preparation. Other duties include the rating of the crossing performance, maintenance of the data/records, sample preparation from leaf tissue and seeds for downstream applications such as flow cytometry or DNA analyses. Participation in other basic seed lab activities (e.g. automated DNA extractions, PCR preparations) is required. The work will be planned and conducted in close coordination with postdoctoral fellows, graduate and undergraduate students, other research technicians, and visiting scientists. Overall supervision will be provided by Prof. Dr. Timothy F. Sharbel.

Qualifications**Education and Experience:**

A Master's degree in horticulture science or plant biology or agricultural biology is required. A combination of a Bachelor's degree in a comparable field and at least two years of professional experience in research environments may be considered. Prior experience or coursework in breeding such as emasculation and crossing, as well as basic molecular lab tasks such as DNA extractions and PCR is desirable.

Skills:

The successful candidate will have the demonstrated ability and desire to work in a fast-paced, team-oriented, multidisciplinary research environment and computer proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel,

and Outlook. They will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills in the English language, solid skills in statistics, and attention to detail and willingness to learn.

This position is not in scope of any bargaining unit.

To Apply: Applications will be accepted online only at careers.usask.ca and **must include a cover letter and resume** and be submitted as a **single PDF document**.

Inquiries regarding this position can be directed to Megan Paul at megan.paul@gifs.ca