

Career Opportunity | Indiana Crop Improvement Association | Lafayette, IN

ICIA has been an industry leader in seed certification, seed quality testing, genetic testing and research for 120 years. It is a non-profit, self-supporting agency that exists to provide services to member customers in the seed, grain, food and related industries. At ICIA, uncompromised quality and customer service are our top priorities.

JOB SUMMARY

The Genetics Lab Technician - Protein Platform Specialist - performs service testing in the Genetics Laboratory in accordance with the appropriate guidelines and procedures of all accredited protein-based seed testing lab service operations including Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA), Lateral Flow Strip (LFS), Mycotoxins, and Isoelectric Focusing (IEF) testing in various crop species. The specialist may also perform other lab services including but are not limited to DNA-based seed testing.

DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES

- Performs all protein-based service testing in the Genetics Laboratory
- Supports and guides the authorized trainers in relevant areas of the Genetics Laboratory
- Assures that all protein-based and other genetics lab tests are carried out according to the documented rules, guidelines, procedures and/or work instructions
- May also perform other lab services including but are not limited to DNA-based seed testing
- Assists the Genetics Lab Operations Head in helping manage the day today workload for protein-based and other genetics
- May assist in ordering protein-based or other Genetics Lab supplies as needed
- May assist with calibration and maintenance of equipment used in protein-based testing
- Assists with customer inquiries and provides information to customers over the phone
- Assists with other functions as determined by the Genetics Program Director
- Attends appropriate seed testing meetings and conferences

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES

- Knowledge of general molecular biology and immunological techniques and procedures used in seed testing including but not limited to nucleic acid (DNA) isolation, PCR, ELISA, LFS and IEF analysis
- Strong knowledge of protein-based testing techniques and procedures, and capacity to troubleshoot
- Familiarity with the AOSA Rules for Testing Seed
- Knowledge of supplies, materials and equipment used in protein-based testing
- Knowledge of all services offered in the Genetics Laboratory
- Knowledge of the safety requirements for this type of testing
- Knowledge of ISO Certification
- Ability to communicate clearly in written and verbal
- Ability to work cooperatively with the Genetics Program Director and other technicians
- Ability to verbally communicate with other team members and customers
- Ability to provide helpful information to customers in a pleasant manner
- Skill in working with computers for data entry and records
- Skill in conflict resolution
- Flexibility to work in an environment with seasonal pressures

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Science Degree in biology, biochemistry, molecular biology or minimum of 5 years' relevant industry experience in seed testing
- Demonstrated experience working collaboratively in cross-functional and cross-cultural teams to achieve common goals
- Highly effective interpersonal skills
- Strong verbal and written communication skills and the ability to work in a multidisciplinary team environment
- Professional certification as a Registered or Certified Genetic Technologist not required at time of hire, but attainment is expected
- A commitment to the mission and ISO Quality Policy of the organization
- An attitude toward work which includes safety, flexibility, initiative, cooperation and a willingness to get the job done.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- This is a full-time, twelve-month, exempt position
- Due to the nature of duties and responsibilities of this position, the individual must be willing to accept a time commitment which at times could exceed 40 hours per week and which could include some evening and weekend work
- Written acceptance of the Association's Personnel Policy Guide for full-time employees
- Must be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident

WORKING CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL DEMANDS

- Working in general office and laboratory environment
- Work involving the use of specialized chemicals requiring safety precautions
- Must be able to lift and carry 25 pounds packages of supplies or other materials
- Walking is required to inspect seed crops, to help plant and evaluate variety plots and move around the physical facilities efficiently
- Driving licensed motor vehicles

Interested candidates should submit résumé to icia@indianacrop.org by Monday, June 22