



Company: Kula Bio

Location: Natick, MA

Position Title: Plant-Soil-Microbe Interaction Lead

Schedule: Full Time

Employee Status: Regular

Organization:

Kula Bio is a leader in sustainable nitrogen solutions, helping farmers improve crop yield and reduce environmental impact. We make a cost-competitive biofertilizer that boosts a naturally occurring process to deposit meaningful amounts of nitrogen in the soil.

We are looking for a passionate and highly motivated professional to join our R&D team at Kula Bio. The Senior Scientist will be working closely with an interdisciplinary team across a matrix organization to provide research support to strengthen our understanding of biological nitrogen fixation and interactions between soil, plant and microbe.

Duties:

- 1) Lead a team of researchers to design, develop and implement studies to identify the interaction of products on soil physico-chemical, biological properties in relation to plant growth, nutrition and yield.
- 2) Develop innovative platforms to characterize beneficial microbes, plant-soil-microbe interactions and microbial genomics.
- 3) Identify, assess and implement new methods and tools for elucidating microbial mode of action including biological nitrogen fixation.
- 4) Provide clear summary of experimental results, highlighting important results and defining next steps.
- 5) Integrate computational and statistical methods in experimental design and data analysis.
- 6) Contribute to research projects, technologies, publications and intellectual property.
- 7) Take initiative in keeping current with literature in areas of assignment and in areas of professional interest.
- 8) Communicate effectively by listening, documentation, and presentation and gathering relevant stakeholder feedback.
- 9) Team player, in a matrix organization interface with production and agronomy& sales teams on current and new product support.

Required Qualifications:

- 1) PhD in Soil Science/ Agronomy or related field with 3-5 years of relevant experience or Master's degree in Soil Science/ Agronomy or related field with 7 years of relevant experience or a Bachelor's degree in Soil Science/Agronomy with 10 years of relevant experience.
- 2) Demonstrated experience in green house/field research or screening as it relates to industrially important crops is required.
- 3) Experience with soil sampling, soil characterization in terms of soil biogeochemical properties in field or greenhouse settings.
- 4) Understanding of plant growth, plant nutrition and previous work experience in measuring soil nutrition, biology and physical properties in response to organic amendments/and microorganisms.
- 5) Experience with molecular biological techniques such as qPCR, genome analysis is required.
- 6) Track record of publications and or patents related to plant-microbe interactions, proven expertise in soil science techniques.
- 7) Strong organizational and time-management skills, good oral and written communication skills.
- 8) Ability to mentor team members in good lab and biotech industry practices.
- 9) Demonstrates a proactive attitude towards site safety and promote safety practices/principles among peers.
- 10) Ability to explore, connect with and/or already established network of external scientific experts on relevant topics (academic experts, extension specialists and growers).
- 11) Prior experiences working in a team environment and ability to adapt to the atmosphere of a dynamic research organization.
- 12) Proven record of driving initiatives and improving processes.
- 13) Experience working with Biological R&D is a strong plus.
- 14) Proficient computer skills including statistical programs, data management systems, and other scientific programs as needed.
- 15) Have a pioneering attitude with the ability to wear multiple hats working in a fast-paced R&D environment.

At Kula Bio, we work and live by our shared values of Innovation, Intellectual Honesty, Balance and Integrity. Our values are guiding principles to developing best in class biological products which enable farmers a cost-effective technology. For more details, please visit our company site www.kulabio.com.

If you are interested in this job, please email your resume and cover letter to admin@kulabio.com.