



Company: Kula Bio
Location: Natick, MA
Position title: Research Associate
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, highly motivated, and experienced professional to join our operations group at Kula Bio. This person will provide support by performing microbiological and biochemical assays on products and product prototypes in a timely manner, report results to stakeholders and assist team members in day-to-day microbial lab activities. This person will be closely working with the manufacturing science and technology (MSAT) and production departments to ensure product quality standards according to established SOPs.

Duties: The Research Associate activities include:

1. Working in close collaboration with MSAT and production team for day-to-day activities.
2. Preparing and testing daily product and process metrics, analyzing data and preparing/presenting reports.
3. Writing/revising SOPs and data records.
4. Keeping detailed records of data and work performed.
5. Calibrating instruments regularly.
6. Troubleshooting methods as well as instruments, as needed.
7. Preparing microbiological growth media and sampling bioreactors.
8. Performing repetitive tasks and lifting up to 50 lbs. at a time.
9. Working with and around microorganisms, laboratory chemicals, and laboratory equipment.

Required Skills:

1. General good laboratory practices.
2. Proficiency in aseptic techniques (BSL1 and BSL2) for microbial growth as well as testing.
3. Experience with maintaining pure cell cultures.

4. Experience with running and sampling small-scale and medium-scale bioreactors.
5. Proficiency in handling and working around laboratory chemicals and equipment.
6. Experience with handling and growing aerobic microbes.
7. Experience with standard microbiological methods including media and plating, serial dilution, viable cell counting, microbial screening, microbial enumeration, staining, etc.
8. Effective organization and communication skills.
9. Ability to adjust to dynamic environment of startups and willingness to assist other departments.

Good-to-Have Skills:

1. Understanding of and experience with analytical chromatographic methods such as LC-MS, GC-MS, or other methods.
2. Experience in molecular biological techniques including DNA extractions, sequencing, running gels, PCR methods including quantitative PCR.
3. Previous experience working in a startup, agricultural business.

Educational Qualification:

B.S. in Microbiology, Environmental Biology, Biology, Biotechnology, or related field with 2-3 years of relevant industrial experience.

Kula Bio has implemented a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination requirement for all employees. This will be a condition of employment.

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 and 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.