
Department: In Vitro Entomology

Job Type: Regular/Exempt

Job Status: Full Time

Reports To: Head of In Vitro Entomology

Amount of Travel Required: <10%

SUMMARY

Genective, a JV between two leading global seed companies, Limagrain and KWS, is seeking an experienced, hands-on, bench-oriented Research Entomologist to join our fast-growing team. The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary program focused on the discovery, biological characterization, development, and commercialization of novel insect control traits. The candidate will be responsible for screening putative insecticidal toxins against relevant agronomic corn insect pests in artificial diet bioassays in a collaborative and transparent environment. The Research Entomologist will continuously improve, optimize, and validate the in vitro bioassays delivering high quality data yielding robust and reproducible results. Data capture, data analysis, and clear communication in both oral and written reports/presentations on experimental procedures and results will be required. The Research Entomologist will directly report to of the Head of In Vitro Entomology. The Research Entomologist will be a contributing member to the larger functional entomology group. The primary working location is Champaign, IL, occasional local travel may be required to the Weldon, IL research station.

THE POSITION

Research Entomologist plays a critical role as part of the overall research team in executing Genective's strategy.

Essential Responsibilities

- Screen putative insecticidal toxins for efficacy against target agronomic pests of corn in bioassays on artificial diet
- Coordinate weekly insect shipments with rearing team and third-party providers
- Ensure data capture, documentation, and timely sharing of results and conclusions in written and oral report format
- Participate in experimental design, data analyses, and troubleshooting assays
- Participate in the drafting and updating of SOPs and work instructions
- Explore and develop new approaches and strategies related to in vitro assays
- Provide help as needed to other team function as part of the global support team mindset

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications:

- A Bachelor's degree in entomology, biology, crop protection, agriculture or related discipline AND experience in an agricultural biotechnology laboratory; Masters' degree with 5+ years relevant experience preferred
- Proven ability to closely follow assay protocols resulting in high quality, robust, and reproducible western corn rootworm neonate artificial diet bioassays

- Energy and drive to work in both an interdisciplinary scientific team and as an independent contributor
- Working knowledge of the fundamental aspects of experimental design and basic statistical data analysis and interpretation
- Ability to understand and interpret published literature in the field and apply it appropriately
- Ability to learn and use statistical software for data analysis, use electronic lab notebooks and databases for data capture and management
- Flexible, highly self-motivated, agile, results-orientated and innovative with a purpose
- Good time management skills
- Good oral and written communications skills
- Equipment skills: Microscope, pipettes, scales, paintbrushes
- Computer skills: MS-Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Document stewardship

THE REWARD

Competitive base salary, bonus, 401(K), medical, dental, long-term disability and life insurance plans, fitness, education, and employee referral. Plus fun and satisfaction working in a high trust, high empowerment, high impact, entrepreneurial environment with a close-knit team

THE ORGANIZATION

About Genective

Genective is a 50/50 joint venture established in 2011 between Limagrain and KWS, two of the world's largest seed companies. With entities and activities in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia, Genective is currently dedicated to the research, development, and marketing of transgenic traits for corn.

About Limagrain

As the fourth largest seed company worldwide, Limagrain's mission is to move agriculture forward to meet global food related challenges. Limagrain is a cooperative group founded and managed by French farmers. Its parent company, Coopérative Limagrain, brings together nearly 2,000 farmers located in the center of France. The Group creates, produces and distributes field seeds, vegetable seeds and cereal products. Limagrain is present in 56 countries and has more than 10,000 employees. It makes nearly 2.5 billion Euros of sales with recognized brands on their markets: LG, Vilmorin, Hazera, Harris Moran, Jacquet, Brossard.

About KWS

KWS is one of the world's leading plant breeding companies. In the fiscal year 2017/18 more than 5,000 employees in 70 countries generated net sales of EUR 1,068 million and earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) of EUR 133 million. A company with a tradition of family ownership, KWS has operated independently for more than 160 years. It focuses on plant breeding and the production and sale of seed for corn, sugar beet, cereals, rapeseed, sunflowers and vegetables. KWS uses leading-edge plant breeding methods to increase farmers' yields and to improve resistance to diseases, pests and abiotic stress. To that end, the company invested approximately EUR 200 million last fiscal year in research and development.

HOW TO APPLY

If interested, please send a cover letter addressing your experience running artificial diet insect bioassays and your resume to resumes@genective.com, Subject line: **Research Entomologist**