
Department: Research**Job Type:** Regular/Exempt**Grade/Level:** Scientist**Job Status:** Full Time**Reports To:** Head, Research Entomology**Amount of Travel Required:** <10%

SUMMARY

Genective, a JV between two leading global seeds companies, Limagrain and KWS, is seeking a Protein Engineer/Biochemist to join our growing team in the U.S. This scientist will be a member of our early-stage research team that is focused on the discovery and development of insecticidal genes to support deregulation and commercialization of biotech corn traits. The primary working location at Genective's global headquarters in Champaign, IL while occasionally working at the research facility in Weldon, IL may be required.

THE POSITION

The successful candidate will possess basic protein purification/characterization experience and has or is willing to become proficient at testing pesticidal proteins against several target pests including the collection of insect tissues for binding studies. The candidate will develop protocols and SOPs for the development of standardized screening processes. Basic responsibilities include 1) purification and characterization of recombinant protein; 2) *in vitro* insect bioassay; 3) toxin binding assays using insect larvae gut membrane preparations and 4) general laboratory duties. The candidate will coordinate and lead multiple projects simultaneously and interface with diverse group of highly qualified scientists, technicians and manage ongoing collaborations with academic labs and CROs. The candidate will be proficient in planning, execution, analysis, presenting and offering creative solutions to accomplish work goals in a fast-paced environment.

In addition to technical expertise in standard biochemical lab techniques, the main responsibilities of this post include but are not limited to:

- Evaluation of existing and new technologies to optimize and streamline discovery platforms.
- Actively seek out stakeholder needs and objectives to support Research Entomology platforms.
- Independently plan, design, execute, record, and analyze studies. Write and review technical protocols and reports.
- Participate and contribute to project planning, updates, and completion. Effectively communicate experimental results across multiple teams by distilling complex information to readily interpreted conclusions.
- Utilize knowledge and expertise to proactively engage members of Genective R&D team to promote an energetic culture of science and community.
- Demonstrate a core desire for continuous improvement through exchange of constructive advice with other scientists regardless of seniority level.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications:

- PhD or MS with commensurate experience
- Hands-on experience with recombinant protein expression and purification of tagged protein (Ni-NTA agarose column, anion exchange, size exclusion)
- Protein labeling (biotin, fluorescent)
- Binding affinity and competition assessments
- Immunoblotting, spectrophotometry, ELISA, immunoprecipitation
- *In vitro* insect bioassay experience with susceptible and resistant insect strains (LC₅₀/IC₅₀)
- Insect dissection and isolation of BBMV
- Insect spectrum testing
- Excellent English oral, written, presentation, and time management skills.
- Independently organize data sets and be the key contact for test results.
- Possess a love of learning, strong problem-solving skills, and a commitment to continuous upskilling.
- Ability to work, think critically, analyze and interpret data independently as well as collaboratively in a fast-paced and agile environment.

THE REWARD

Competitive base salary, bonus, 401(K), medical, dental, long-term disability, and life insurance plans, as well as support programs for fitness, education, and employee referral. Find your career and make an impact in a dynamic and informal discovery research environment that is highly collaborative, trusting, and entrepreneurial.

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, sugarbeet, 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

It is important that you are legally entitled to work in the US at the time the job offer is made to you. You may be asked to provide proof of eligibility.

If interested, please send your cover letter and resume to resumes@genective.com.