

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77845

Position title: Associate Research Scientist

Agency

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center

Commensurate

Job Location

College Station, Texas

Job Type

Staff

Job Description

Job Summary:

This position will work on both basic and applied research in relation to foods for health using systems-wide approach to improve fruits and vegetables. Research and outreach activities include collaboration with team of scientists and post-doctoral research associates. This position will also supervise a number of undergraduate and graduate students involved in this area of work. The ideal candidate should have experience in handling analytical instruments including LC, LC-MS, NMR, Raman Spectroscopy, and GC-MS. Must possess high attention to detail, strong organization skills, and excellent communication. He/she will need to operate in a startup environment and be flexible to take on new and added responsibilities according to research need. Provide advice and assistance to other laboratory members and act as a mentor to students.

Responsibilities:

- Conduct research to characterize and identify novel bioactive compounds. Establish the relationship between consumption of fruits and vegetables, microbiota and their relationship between microbiota and bioactives.
- Establish relationship between plant metabolites and disease and pests.
- Nanotechnology in agriculture and specifically improving quality and yield.
- Conduct experiments related to identifying metabolites in plant and biological samples
- Lead and coordinate lab activities, including scheduling, parts and supplies requisition, access, safety and compliance.
- Perform preventive maintenance on laboratory equipment as needed to keep them in optimal working condition.

- Perform record keeping and quality assurance activities to maintain laboratory certification.
- Required to work on research teams and collaborate with other experts to achieve the targeted goal.
- Operate, maintain and trouble shoot routine lab instruments and maintaining day today laboratory and field experiments.
- Participate in analyzing and disseminating data results as part of participation in group meetings, prepare manuscripts, periodic reports, scientific papers/presentations and grant proposals.
- Responsible for conducting and maintaining records of experiments. Lab safety and related duties and responsibilities.
- Work with industry partners to improve fruits and vegetables.
- Train undergraduates, graduate students, and visiting scientists.
- Conduct hands-on training based on need and develop short courses.
- Prepare and submit competitive proposals to various agencies in response to Requests for Proposals (RFP).
- Prepare and submit publications in high impact Journals and other appropriate professional organizations papers that result for his/her personal research work
- Prepare and submit reports to the funding agencies and organizations
- Any duties assigned by the Director of the Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center (<http://vfic.tamu.edu>) based on the specific need.

Required Education:

Doctoral Degree or equivalent combination of experience and education.

Required Experience:

3 years of related work experience

Required Skills

- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Design experiments independently for the research with limited assistance
- Demonstrate competency with laboratory work and use of analytical instrumentation
- Interpret analytical data from LC/MS, GC-MS and NMR instrumentation and apply understanding to solving the specific problem.
- Record of accomplishment of peer-reviewed publications and scholarly work in the related areas.
- Comfortable working in a fast-paced environment with firm deadlines
- Maintain analytical instrumentation and troubleshoot problems when necessary
- Write standard operating procedures and demonstrate the ability to follow procedures
- Work effectively in a team environment

- Prepare safety and equipment use manuals and analytical methods as needed.
- Able to communicate constructively with other scientists and collaborators
- Experience in identifying metabolites in biological samples.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office (Including Excel, Word, Outlook, etc.)
- Sufficient knowledge in statistical analysis tools-SAS, R, XLstat, Multivariate analysis
- Impeccable record keeping and troubleshooting skills of analytical instruments, follow applicable safety standards.
- Highly collaborative, self-motivated, team-oriented individual, with good computer skills. May require working evening and/or weekend hours.
- Contributes to team by working effectively with individuals of diverse backgrounds.
- Require Texas Driver License

Preferred Education:

PhD in Food Science, Horticulture, Microbiology, Agriculture, Biochemistry, Chemistry or related field with a focus on fruits and vegetables and/or food.

Preferred Experience:

Hands-on experience with a wide range of techniques in purification, and spectroscopic characterization of novel compounds (NMR, LC-MS, HPLC, Raman Spectroscopy, Chromatographic technique etc.). Experience in identification metabolites, isolation and identification of bioactive compounds.

Organic or analytical chemistry experience, demonstrated record of productivity in related area of research as evidenced by publications and/or patents. Employment is contingent upon the agency's verification of credentials and/or other information required by agency procedures, including the completion of a criminal history check.

Please apply through:

https://tamus.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/AgriLife_Research_External/job/College-Station-AL-RSCH/Associate-Research-Scientist_R-034554.

Communicate with Dr. Bhimu Patil (b-patil@tamu.edu) with any questions. Finalists may be required to furnish a copy of official transcript documenting degree conferred.

Texas law requires all males 18-25 show proof of compliance with federal Selective Service law to be eligible for employment.

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Veterans/Disability Employer committed to diversity.

All positions are security-sensitive. Applicants are subject to a criminal history investigation, and employment is contingent upon the institution's verification of credentials and/or other information required by the institution's procedures, including the completion of the criminal history check.

COVID-19 Safety Plan

All research activities on University property will adhere to the prescribed social distancing guidelines and precautions that include:

- Work remotely as much as is possible
- Must conduct a self-assessment before coming to work
- Stay home if one feels sick
- Maintain a distance of six feet of separation
- Wear a mask if a six feet separation cannot be maintained in the office, laboratory, greenhouse or field
- Wear a mask in laboratory settings