

Research Scientist—Molecular Geneticist | Indiana Crop Improvement Association | Lafayette, IN

Indiana Crop Improvement Association ([ICIA](#)) has been an industry leader in seed certification, seed quality testing, genetic testing, and research for more than 120 years. ICIA is a non-profit, self-supporting agency that exists to provide services to member customers in the seed, grain, food, and related industries. At ICIA, uncompromised quality and customer service are our top priorities. We offer our employees premium health, life and long-term disability insurances, generous retirement matching contribution, paid vacation, and sick leave allowances.

JOB SUMMARY

The Research Scientist reports to the CSO and collaborates closely with the Genetics Program Director and ICIA member customers to identify research projects that lead to new testing services. The successful candidate designs and conducts scientific experiments to develop and validate new molecular markers, assays, and tests to meet the needs of member seed companies. The scientist also interacts extensively with members of the Operations Team in the Genetics Program to ensure seamless transition of new testing services from R&D to Operations. This is a full-time, twelve-month, exempt position.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Planning and executing experiments that lead to new services for member customers.
- Developing and validating new testing or assays.
- Assisting the CSO to drive the ICIA strategic goal of Improving Crop Through Science.
- Networking with seed and testing industries and member customers to identify new testing needs and establish collaborations.
- Supporting the advancement of new service opportunities through a commercialization pipeline.
- Writing appropriate research project proposals with detailed workplan and budget.
- Establishing SOPs for new services and training personnel in the Operations team.
- Assisting Operations in technical troubleshooting as needed.
- Participating in Operations activities during peak season to ensure customer needs are met on time.
- Assisting with customer inquiries.
- Developing intellectual property and ensuring freedom to operate for new services.
- Assisting with other functions as determined by ICIA management.

QUALIFICATION AND REQUIREMENTS

- A Ph.D. in plant genetics, molecular biology, or related field with 0-3 years of experience.
- Strong experience in plant molecular genetics, including gene, QTL or trait discovery and mapping; molecular biology, all aspects, including different types of PCRs.
- Strong knowledge in molecular breeding technologies, including marker discovery, development, and application; marker-assisted selection; different genotyping platforms and applications.
- Good knowledge in bioinformatics, genomics, and related tools.

- Familiar with ELISA and other protein-based assays.
- Ability to work on multiple research projects simultaneously and adjust priorities according to business needs.
- Effective communication with internal and external stakeholders.
- Highly motivated individual with abilities to influence others without direct reporting relationship.
- An attitude toward work which includes flexibility, initiative, collaboration, and willingness to get the job done under the ICIA safety policy.
- Fluent in written and oral English language.
- Must be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident

Interested candidates should submit their resume to icia@indianacrop.org