

PLANT PATHOLOGIST

Plant pathologists study the health of plants. They work to identify diseases, pests and other health problems a plant may experience.

WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES WILL I HAVE?

- Tissue sampling and other routine tasks associated with experiments
- Mechanical inoculation of virus, bacteria, fungi, oomycete, nematode and other pathogens in field, greenhouse and growth chambers
- Bio-assays with insects/vectors
- Perform routine data collection from a various sized research projects and entry into enterprise systems
- Prepare clear, accurate, and concise reports of results, and communicate to customer or colleague stakeholders
- Perform or direct simple to complex molecular lab work
- Perform complex data analysis using parametric and non-parametric statistical models
- Lead a cross-functional team in innovating, developing and enabling new phenotyping, diagnostic, and other assays for existing and new problems
- Networking internally to innovate and enable new tests
- Networking externally to assess state of the art and evaluate new research opportunities
- Propose and lead external collaborations directed toward goals
- Ability to innovate to design and implement new screening methods & platforms for existing or emerging diseases
- Review literature and stay up to date on latest technologies



WHAT EDUCATION & TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

Bachelor's or Master's degree in botany, horticulture, plant pathology, or biology; a Doctorate is recommended

THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES ARE RECOMMENDED...

Agricultural education, chemistry, biology, mathematics, environmental science

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Seed research and biotech companies, government agencies, universities, or you may be self-employed

FUTURE JOB MARKET/OUTLOOK



SUGGESTED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

- American Society of Plant Biologists
- American Phytopathological Society

AVERAGE ANNUAL FULL-TIME SALARY

\$70,000