

# PLANT BIOLOGIST

A plant biologist specializes in topics such as plant breeding or genetics; they conduct and support research of plant production.



## WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES WILL I HAVE?

- Develop, conduct, evaluate, and report various field research programs in his or her designated field station location
- Perform tasks required for each research trial, including site selection, planting of test crops, calibration of spray equipment, making pesticide and fertilizer applications, collecting crop and soil samples, and conducting evaluations of crops and pests
- Ability to organize and work independently while sharing information with team members
- Study the effects of pollution on plants and find ways to protect them
- Produce plants from tissue cultures
- Identify new species plants
- Monitor, diagnose and treat insect, disease or physiological and cultural conditions
- Manage, organize and analyze field data
- Manage daily lab activities including; supply organization, general lab and equipment, growth-chamber monitoring, laminar flow hood and autoclave use and maintenance
- Active participation in location safety program and leadership for pathology lab safety

## WHAT EDUCATION & TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

Bachelor's or master's degree in botany, plant pathology, horticulture, weed science or agronomy

## THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES ARE RECOMMENDED...

Agricultural education, chemistry, biology, mathematics, foreign language

## TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Large biotechnology companies, laboratories, universities, state and government agencies

## FUTURE JOB MARKET/OUTLOOK



## SUGGESTED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

- American Society of Plant Biologists
- Botanical Society of America
- American Institute of Biological Systems
- Ecological Society of America

## AVERAGE ANNUAL FULL-TIME SALARY

\$73,000