

Field Research Scientist

Tractor Driving / Farm Machinery Operational Skills
ADAS Rosemaund, Herefordshire | Full-time | Permanent

The role will be based from our Rosemaund office in Herefordshire, and will be on a full-time basis, permanent basis.

The research work is arable crop focused specialising primarily in Crop Pathology and Physiology. This represents an opportunity to work in a truly independent research organisation on exciting scientific projects for clients, for Government, Levy boards and some of the most progressive and successful UK and internationally based businesses.

We envisage the successful candidate will be confident and familiar with farm machinery operation and have a willingness to adapt these skills to suit research requirements. Competency certificates such as PA1, 2, 4 & 6 would be beneficial, but not essential as training can be provided.

You will be working as a member of the team responsible initially for harvesting trials and setting up field and plot experiments for the coming season. Through the year duties will involve a wide range of practical tasks, such as sampling and disease monitoring of plants, applying plant protection products to crops, and assisting with the entire cycle of arable crop production (from cultivation and planting through to spraying and harvest).

Due to the seasonal nature of the work a flexible approach is needed as there will be a requirement to work overtime, and although field based, you will also be required to do some office-based working.

Job responsibilities:

- Operation of plot trials equipment and larger agricultural machinery for harvest, cultivation and maintenance of trial fields.
- Deliver practical research for a range of agricultural crops.
- Lead implementation of on-site field / glasshouse / polytunnel / laboratory work and liaise with clients and colleagues to ensure on time delivery
- Manage projects ensuring key objectives and deadlines, are met, ensuring high levels of scientific credibility and client satisfaction are achieved
- Handle collection, aggregation, and routine analysis of data
- Take responsibility for the maintenance of allocated equipment.
- Assess levels of pest and disease, and crop condition.
- Assist with experimental work outside of the immediate team as required.
- Develop and sustain good working relationships with colleagues at all levels in the team and across ADAS

Person specification:

- Working knowledge of machinery and good operational skills.
- Possess an interest in Agriculture and/or Scientific research.
- PA1, PA2, PA4 & PA6 desirable, but training can be provided for the right candidate.
- Capability or potential to manage field experiments, alongside glasshouse and office delivery at ADAS sites and at numerous commercial growers predominantly in Herefordshire, but also throughout the UK, dependant on business need

- A progressive attitude with flexibility and willingness to take on a wide range of challenges.
- Awareness of the peaks in workload during the arable growing season and willingness to work overtime during the busy periods essential.
- Ability to work alone and as part of a team.
- Ideally educated to A-level or higher in a relevant subject area.
- Good numerical ability and accuracy.
- Flexibility to travel within the UK.
- A full driving licence is essential.

Salary and benefits:

- £20000 - £22,000 (plus paid overtime) depending on experience and technical knowledge
- Life assurance
- A flexible benefits programme including the option to buy additional holidays, health cash plan and discounted gym membership
- Regular training and career development

RSK Group is an Equal Opportunities Employer

More detailed job description attached