

Cotton Breeder Position - Monsanto

Location: India

Objectives of the Job:

- 1) Reselection of converted parental lines of advanced hybrids for improvement through maintenance breeding
- 2) Coordination of the trait quality lab, testing for Monsanto GM traits in development by India Cotton Breeding

Key responsibilities:

- Maintenance breeding: Reselection of converted parental lines of advanced hybrids for incremental improvement
- Production, and evaluation, of Test Crosses: Production of test-crosses during reselection and evaluation of test-cross progenies in co-ordination with Breeders
- Supervising hybrid seed production & trial kit preparation: Production of hybrid seed for all stages of testing and trial kit preparation
- Trait testing: Conducting ELISA & PCR based trait tests for the Monsanto events in development
- DNA fingerprinting: Running DNA fingerprints for germplasm characterization and regulatory purposes
- Liaison role: Liaison with US labs for trait quality testing, fingerprinting and other marker work
- Management of day-to-day activities of the trait testing lab: Supporting day-to-day activities of trait testing lab. This also includes timely procurements of lab supplies and chemicals, sampling activities, shipping of samples abroad, inventory management, etc.
- Inter-functional support: Continuous interaction with Assistant Breeder "TI and other members of India Cotton Breeding Team, as well as Tech Development / Sales / Seed Supply
- Regulatory support: Applications/approvals for all stages of regulated trials & seed production, and for import and export of all transgenic germplasm
- Environment, Health and Safety: Following safety policies, and fostering Safety Culture, by inculcating awareness by others for work in lab, polyhouse and field
- Miscellaneous responsibilities: Facilitating knowledge sharing & best practices, and interacting closely with other functional teams

Experience - External:

An MSc/PhD in Plant Breeding or any other biological science, with at least two to three years of experience in handling of transgenic plants, and with working knowledge of Plant Breeding, is required. The candidate must also be familiar with common laboratory instrumentation, assays and good laboratory practices (GLP). Familiarity with ELISA and PCR assays as used in transgenic trait testing of GM plants is desirable. In addition, core competencies for this position include organizational efficiency; strong work ethic and sense of responsibility; capacity to instruct and to supervise the work of others; proficient written and oral communication; excellent interpersonal skills to work in a team, and on collaborative projects within and across teams; and commitment to a safe work environment, are all necessary attributes for this position. The successful candidate will be a self-starter, with the motivation and initiative to make a technically challenging project successful. Previous work in a position of accountability is highly valued, and work experience in corporate / industrial environment is preferred, but is not essential. Occasional travel (totaling no more than 15%), may be required. This full-time, year-round, permanent position offers a compensation package commensurate with experience and with high expectations, as well as opportunities for professional growth.