

Crop Physiology Research Consultant

ADAS is the leading research based consultancy to land-based industries in England and Wales. Our Research Centres undertake market-focused research funded by government and industry. Our research and consultancy activities are closely linked in order to provide maximum benefit for our wide range of customers.

Applications are invited for crop physiologists interested in crop improvement and the development of low carbon crop products to join a multi-disciplinary team located across the UK.

The job holder will, as part of a team, promote and sell ADAS' business in the crop performance sector and develop new consultancy and research and development projects, as well as delivering existing project work. A particular focus for the group at present is developing production systems and identifying genetic traits which reduce the greenhouse gas costs of crop production whilst maintaining or increasing crop productivity.

From the outset, the appointees will be expected to become involved in initiating and marketing project ideas, as well as the delivery of on-going work. This will be achieved through working closely with ADAS colleagues and with other collaborative research organisations possessing complementary skills.

New projects are continually being developed that cover research, development and strategic consultancy. Current significant projects include;

- Breeding oilseed rape with a low requirement for nitrogen fertiliser
- Genetic Reduction of Energy use and Emissions of Nitrogen through cereal production: G R E E N grain
- Maximising bioethanol processing yield of UK wheat: Effects of non starch polysaccharides in grain
- Facilitating carbon accreditation schemes for biofuels: feedstock production
- Identification of genetic markers for lodging resistance in wheat
- Adapting wheat to global warming

The appointee will be expected to promote ADAS' broad crop science capability and develop new projects within the current areas of operation as well as developing new aspects of business. In doing so it is expected that the appointees will collaborate with other ADAS consultants with the necessary expertise, where appropriate.

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Location:

At one of our research centres: at ADAS Boxworth in Cambridgeshire, ADAS High Mowthorpe in North Yorkshire or ADAS Rosemaund in Herefordshire.

Management, Responsibilities & Duties:

The appointees will join ADAS as either a Research Scientist or Consultant dependant on experience and profile, reporting to Dr Pete Berry, who is responsible for crop physiology work within the Sustainable Crop Management Business Unit. The Business Unit has over 50 Research Scientists and Consultants with complementary skills, and in addition scientific support staff who are responsible for the day-to-day conduct of the experimentation.

Key responsibilities will include:

- Promote the crop physiology work in ADAS
- Assess relevant scientific and industry literature
- Cost proposals and monitor staff inputs
- Liaise with collaborating institutions
- Manage, analyse and present data
- Draft and publish findings in the scientific press
- Draft reports for customers including Defra Policy Divisions
- Market and sell their own work
- Assist with the delivery of projects

Personal Qualities, Skills and Experience:

Applicants should

- Have a doctorate or an equivalent research record
- Have experience in crop physiology or a related discipline, and appropriate scientific publications
- Demonstrate ability to promote and market innovative R&D and consultancy proposals and be particularly attracted to working under the constraints of a commercial research operation
- Have good knowledge of Crop Physiology
- Have good data interpretation skills
- Have excellent communication skills, written and verbal
- Be able to write and sell innovative R&D and consultancy proposals
- Have an understanding of research/consultancy business needs in this rapidly developing business sector
- Have a full UK driving licence

Starting salary is expected to be in the range £21,500 - £27,600

To apply or obtain further details please contact: Mrs Jacky Harmer, ADAS Boxworth, Boxworth, Cambridge, CB23 4NN. Tel. 01954 268221. email: Jacky.Harmer@adas.co.uk. Closing date – 20th March 2009.