



P-5648: Soil Microbiologist

Winfield United, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Land O'Lakes, offers top-performing seed and crop protection products. With unmatched agricultural expertise and performance as core company values, WinField United brands match leading seed and crop protection products to help growers, dealers and other industry partners achieve high levels of success.

We're hiring a Soil Microbiologist to work in Ames, Iowa. In this position, you will be responsible to research new and innovative methods and measurements for agriculture, enabling growers to understand more about their soil at an economical return that has not been seen before. Your primary focus will be soil biology; microbes, nematodes and bacteria, developing quantifiable ways to measure, at scale, what levels of these biological factors are in a sample. You will work to enable growers to understand what is making their soil more or less productive and then make corrections to the lower performing areas for higher productivity.

Your primary responsibilities include:

- Research and evaluate new technologies and methods in our industry that will improve current measurements in Soil Biology (DNA focused) and lower the cost of our traditional measurement methods.
- Evaluate, validate and implement new/improved methods in Soil Biology (DNA focused) using design of experiments (DOE) for potential method changes.
- Promote and defend our new methods and measurements to peers in soil industry community.
- Maintain professional development and professional relationships with key university, industry and governmental personnel; participate in professional activities at the state, regional and/or national level.
- Serve on the leadership team; Participate in discussions on product design, planning and strategic direction, participate in Lean Six Sigma improvement projects which include data and information collection, advise on and provide expertise, offer ideas and solutions for attaining short and long term objectives.
- Participate as project leader or team member on new method and measurement efforts

Education/Experience required:

- Masters in biology, microbiology, molecular biology or related field required with a minimum 5-7 years' experience
- Ph.D in biology, microbiology, molecular biology or related field strongly desired with a minimum 3-5 years' experience
- Proven ability to utilize statistical tools such as; JMP, Tableau, Minitab, to interpret experimental results
- Experience utilizing qPCR

Competencies and other skills:

- Ability to work independently on individual project and with a Team for overall goals.
- Experience taking an idea from concept to prototype to commercialization.
- Ability to work in a Team environment giving collaborative input into scientific methods and peer reviews.

Apply online at: [Soil Microbiologist](#)

EOE M/F/Vets/Disabled. Land O'Lakes, Inc. enforces a policy of maintaining a drug-free workforce, including pre-employment substance abuse testing.

Land O'Lakes, Inc., one of America's premier agribusiness and food companies, is a member-owned cooperative with industry-leading operations that span the spectrum from agricultural production to consumer foods. With 2016 annual sales of \$13 billion, Land O'Lakes is one of the nation's largest cooperatives, ranking 215 on the Fortune 500. Building on a legacy of more than 95 years of operation, Land O'Lakes today operates some of the most respected brands in agribusiness and food production including LAND O LAKES® Dairy Foods, Purina Animal Nutrition and WinField® United and Land O'Lakes SUSTAIN™. The company does business in all 50 states and more than 60 countries. Land O'Lakes, Inc. corporate headquarters are located in Arden Hills, Minn.