

## Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology

### University of Illinois

#### Research Scientist #147784

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The primary responsibility of this position is the development and phenotypic analysis of accelerated relaxation of photo protection in soybean, cowpea, cassava and tobacco to identify plants with superior photosynthetic performance and yield. To oversee technical and students assisting with this work, including the maintenance of our equipment for physiological measurement and analysis of photosynthesis.

#### **MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

<b>30%</b>	Design, implement and analyze replicated field experiments with transgenic lines to identify the best genes leading to optimization of photosynthetic efficiency and increased yield through relaxation of photo protection.
<b>20%</b>	Perform biochemical and physiological phenotyping using gas exchange and modulated chlorophyllfluorescence.
<b>15%</b>	Investigate the relative growth rate of transgenic lines using high throughput phenotyping plant imaging systems.
<b>20%</b>	Communicate research progress and results to project team members and external stakeholders including peer-reviewed publications to disseminate scientific findings as well presenting the results at scientific conferences and project meetings.
<b>5%</b>	Propagate plants from tissue culture for greenhouse testing. Maintain the collection of cassava transformants.
<b>5%</b>	Maintain detailed and organized records of project data and other materials.
<b>5%</b>	Recruit, select, and supervise graduate students, academic hourly workers, and undergraduate students assisting with research activities including providing orientation and training, determining task assignments, managing performance, including evaluation and providing coaching and mentoring of independent study.

#### **POSITION REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

##### **Education:**

- **Required:** PhD, Plant Science or other Biological Sciences
- **Preferred:** PhD, Photosynthesis, Plant Physiology, Plant Biology or similar fields

**Experience:**

- **Required:**
  1. Photosynthesis research and plant physiology.
  2. Biochemical and physiological phenotyping using gas exchange and modulated chlorophyll fluorescence.
  3. Phenotyping of photosynthesis through analysis of the responses of photosynthesis to light and intercellular CO<sub>2</sub>.
  4. A good record of publications in leading peer-reviewed plant science journals.
  5. Tissue culture propagation of cassava.
  6. Design, conduct and analysis of replicated greenhouse and field experiments.
- **Preferred:**
  1. Tissue analysis, including cell wall components.
  2. Training and management of technical staff, graduate students or hourly undergraduate worker.

**Training, Licenses or Certifications Required:**

- **Required:** Biosafety Training
- **Preferred:** Radiation Safety Training

**Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

- **Required:** Extensive knowledge of plant photosynthesis and biochemistry and root phenotyping, strong oral and written communication skills, ability to work in a complex and challenging environment both autonomously and collaboratively as part of a team, critical thinker and problem solver with a demonstrated ability to efficiently execute project tasks.
- **Preferred:** Statistical analysis of large datasets.
- **Environmental Demands:** Work in a laboratory setting and conducting field trials.

**Salary:** Commensurate with experience and qualifications

**Appointment Status:** Full-time academic professional, grant-supported appointment renewable annually pending continued funding and satisfactory progress within the position. Qualified individuals will be eligible to receive vacation, sick, and personal leave; retirement through the State Universities Retirement System; and group health, dental, vision and life insurance.

**Start Date:** As soon as possible after the close date.

**TO APPLY:** Applications must be received by July 23, 2021. To apply, all candidates must submit an online profile through <https://jobs.illinois.edu> by the close of the posting period. Interviews may be conducted prior to the closing date; however, a hiring decision will not be made until after the closing date. Qualified candidates must upload a letter of which details qualifications noted above, resume and the names and contact information of three professional references. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. For further information about this specific position,

Jacinda King ([jkking@illinois.edu](mailto:jkking@illinois.edu)). For questions about the application process, please contact 217-333-2137.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer. The University of Illinois System requires candidates selected for hire to disclose any documented finding of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment and to authorize inquiries to current and former employers regarding findings of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. For more information, visit [Policy on Consideration of Sexual Misconduct in Prior Employment](#). As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System [uses E-Verify](#) to verify [employment eligibility](#).