

JOB DESCRIPTION

Agency	Department of Primary Industry and Resources	Work Unit	Biosecurity and Animal Welfare
Job Title	Principal Scientist	Designation	Senior Professional Officer 1
Job Type	Full Time	Duration	Fixed to 31/12/2019
Salary	\$117,605- \$131,382	Location	Darwin
Position Number	92190002 RTF 158638	Closing	06/02/2019
Contact	Dr Lucy Tran-Nguyen on 08 8999 2235 or lucy.tran-nguyen@nt.gov.au		
Agency Information	https://dpiir.nt.gov.au/		
Information for Applicants	Applications must be limited to a one-page summary sheet and an attached detailed resume/cv. For further information for applicants and example applications: click here		
Information about Selected Applicant's Merit	If you accept this position, a detailed summary of your merit (including work history, experience, qualifications, skills, information from referees, etc.) will be provided to other applicants, to ensure transparency and better understanding of the reasons for the decision. For further information: click here		
Special Measures	Not applicable to this vacancy.		
Apply Online Link	https://jobs.nt.gov.au/Home/JobDetails?rtfId=158638		

Primary Objective:

To be responsible for research on the epidemiology of plant diseases particularly bacteria, the work program will be focused on plant disease epidemiology, encompassing host, pathogen, and environmental aspects of disease development. Specific areas of research may include, but are not limited to, quantitative analysis of plant disease, defining the influence of environmental factors on infection and disease development and the development of explanatory or predictive models of plant disease progress to support the Northern Territory's citrus canker eradication program. Ensure the provision of effective and relevant extension services to support plant biosecurity.

Context Statement:

A response to the detection of *Xanthomonas citri* subsp. *citri* (citrus canker) in Northern Territory (NT) has been underway since April 2018. Under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed, citrus canker is the focus of a nationally supported control and eradication program managed through the Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Resources.

Key Duties and Responsibilities:

1. In keeping with DPIR strategic goals, and in consultation with the Chief Plant Health Officer and Citrus Canker Program Manager, coordinate the work program for citrus canker epidemiology.
2. Provide advice to senior management within the citrus canker eradication program.
3. Manage human, financial and technical resources; including leading and developing a team in the plant disease epidemiology.
4. Prepare reports, scientific publications and presentations as required.
5. Represent the NT on national advisory committees and working groups and maintain scientific liaison with funding agencies, universities and other appropriate institutions in Australia and overseas.

Selection Criteria

Essential:

1. Appropriate degree in agricultural science, science or equivalent with extensive research experience deemed equivalent based on the record of publications.
2. Proven ability and experience to plan and manage all aspects of large work programs and/or research projects including human and financial resources.
3. Demonstrated extensive experience and knowledge of plant-based primary industries, plant disease epidemiology that includes host, pathogen, and environmental aspects of the plant disease.
4. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, together with the ability to develop effective relationships with staff and stakeholders at all levels.
5. Proven ability to lead and work effectively in a team environment.
6. Demonstrated capability to work harmoniously and effectively as a member of a team and to meet deadlines
7. Ability to interact effectively with people of diverse cultures.
8. Demonstrated experience in bioinformatics platforms, databases, project management and office software.
9. A current Australian drivers licence, class "C" or above.

Desirable:

1. Well-developed knowledge of plant health and pest and disease incursions at the local, national and international levels.
2. Post graduate qualification in Science (plant pathology, epidemiology, modelling).

Approved: 24/12/2018

Sarah Corcoran, Executive Director Biosecurity & Animal Welfare