

Post-Doc Position in UF Strawberry Molecular Genetics and Genomics Lab

Seeking highly motivated postdoctoral research associate to provide molecular genomics support to ongoing research projects of strawberry disease resistance and fruit quality. The scientist should have a deep understand and research experience of plant genomics, transcriptomics, and gene editing. The successful candidate will be working in both strawberry breeding and molecular genomics labs and other scientists in UF strawberry breeding program at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center (GCREC), Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida.

Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will participate in gene discovery and transgene-free CRISPR gene editing for cultivar improvement, in collaboration with the strawberry breeding program at University of California Davis. The postdoc researcher will be responsible for processing and analyzing extensive genomic and transcriptomic datasets. Additionally, the researcher will conduct genome-wide associated study (GWAS) analysis to identify sequence variations and candidate genes associated with targets traits of disease resistance and fruit flavor. Our lab has successfully developed multiple haplotype-phased genomes of octoploid strawberry, and these unpublished resources are available for identifying variations in sequence and gene structures. The appointee is expected to work closely with fellow researchers and students in the strawberry breeding programs for fostering a collaborative and productive research environment.

Duration of Appointment and Salary:

The position is available immediately, and initial appointment is for two years. A renewal of the appointment will be contingent based on success of research program (individual performance and publications) and funding availability. The minimum salary is \$52,000 and commensurate with experience.

Required Skills and Background:

- PhD or equivalent in Plant breeding, genetics, genomics, and molecular biology.
- Experience of genomic sequencing and transcriptome data analysis.
- Experience of CRISPR vector construction and gene editing.
- Preferred in experience of gene discovery and functional genomics in plants.
- Excellent communication, strong team-work spirit, and independent problem solving and self-learning abilities.
- Strong writing skills and a motivation to publish research results in high impact peer-reviewed journals.

Desired Skills and Background:

- Preference will be given to candidates with previous publications in the field of gene discovery research, and postdoctoral experience in plant molecular genetics and functional genomics.
- Working or collaborative experience in plant breeding programs, especially for polyploid species (preferred but not required).
- Proficiency in working with PacBio long reads and Illumina sequencing data, and familiar with bioinformatic tools for comparative genomic analysis of polyploid.
- Previous experience in allele mining and gene cloning from multi-omics data and functional validations in plants.
- Previous experience in CRISPR gene editing in plants.

Application:

Send a page of research interest and plan, curriculum vita, and contact information for three references to Seonghee Lee (seonghee105@ufl.edu).