

New Solutions Development Scientist: Job Description

Location: Reading, UK

Salary: Competitive plus share options

Reports to: Head of R&D

About BigSis

BigSis (<http://bigsis.tech>), a UK start-up, is building a broad portfolio of sustainable insect control solutions based on the sterile insect technique that could substitute the majority of the £12.5bn chemical insecticides in use today. We are currently focused on scaling our highly automated production and expanding our capacity for trials and operational projects in the field.

Purpose and responsibilities

The New Solutions Development Scientist will play a key role in developing BigSis sustainable insect control solutions. You will bring knowledge and experience of conducting scientific research to design, implement and analyse scientific projects. You be responsible for developing and optimising protocols to generate sterile insects and to assess their fitness and mating competitiveness in lab trials. You will provide training and support to other scientists and lab assistants. There will be substantial opportunity for personal growth as the company continues to expand its operations.

Responsibilities will include:

- Carry out literature reviews to guide experimental design
- Design, run and analyse experiments independently but in alignment with program goals and endorsement of line manager
- Write study reports and present results internally and externally if required
- Help improve processes to support compliance to regulations and health and safety
- Provide occasional weekend support as part of a rota
- Train staff and quality-check their work

Qualifications and experience

- A degree in a relevant subject and possibly a post-graduate qualification
- Previous experience of working with insects in a lab setting
- Must be diligent and organised, with data recording abilities and strong attention to detail
- Experience in organising, prioritising and completing work to high standards and to tight deadlines
- Good understanding of data processing and statistical analysis
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office, particularly Excel, Word and PowerPoint
- Comfortable working in hot and humid environments
- Effective verbal and written communications
- A full UK driving license would be advantageous

Personal attributes

Important personal qualities in the unstructured and fast-changing environment of a start-up are:

- Energy, ambition and commitment to ensure the job gets done
- Honesty, integrity and openness to ensure we build a great company culture
- Flexibility to changes in priorities and adaptability to new ideas

Application process

To be considered for this role, please send a CV and cover letter to info@bigsis.tech explaining why you think you are the right person for this job. Please include information about your education, work experience and current salary.

BigSis is an equal opportunities employer. Applicants will be considered without attention to age, sex, race, disability, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender reassignment and religious background.