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| **JOB DESCRIPTION** |

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| **SPECIFIC JOB TITLE** | Scientific Technician- Entomologist |
| **LEVEL/BAND** | C |
| **JOB FAMILY** | SCIENCE CAPABILITIES |
| **GENERIC ROLE TITLE** | SCIENTIFIC TECHNICIAN |
| **CONTRACT TYPE** | Indefinite |
| **HOURS** | 37 |
| **REPORTS TO** | Senior Scientific Specialist Principal Entomologist |
| **DEPARTMENT** | Protecting Crops and the Environment |
| **LOCATION** | Harpenden |
| **DATE** | 04/09/2024 |

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| **OVERVIEW OF ROLE/JOB PURPOSE** |
| The post includes both laboratory and field work in a diverse role. The main task will be to work with the aphid bulletin team where the post-holder will be expected to quickly learn to identify a range of insects, including aphids, collect trap catches and help with tasks associated with the efficient running of the laboratory. Additionally, the post-holder will be expected to assist with fieldwork and may be required to occasionally stay overnight close to field sites or work during the evening to assist PhD students and other staffs with entomology projects.    Within the aphid bulletin team, the post holder is expected to use their entomological skills to accurately identify insects caught by the Rothamsted Insect Survey's (RIS) network of traps, particularly aphids. The jobholder will be expected to submit high quality data derived from the samples to the RIS database. Entomological training will be given, and, in time, the post holder will be expected to identify the 20 aphid ‘bulletin’ species as well as the shortlist of key non-aphid insect species (e.g., pollen beetle, cabbage stem flea beetle, ladybirds, spotted-wing drosophila, orange wheat blossom midge etc.). All samples should be processed at speed and without loss of accuracy. The post holder will curate and archive samples as the need arises.  A willingness to talk to visitors to explain the workings of the RIS and to help interns and collaborators during their research is actively encouraged. It is expected that the post holder will also have a range of computer skills that illustrate a competency in Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel and Word to help others write reports, prepare presentations, graphs and to perform routine calculations etc. A driving licence would be advantageous.  The role holder is expected to carry out the duties listed below, and any other duties reasonably required by the line manager or Institute, commensurate with the grade and level of responsibility for this post. |
| **MAIN DUTIES OF ROLE** |

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| **Generic Outputs** | **Weighting** | **Description of Outputs** | **Description of Job Specific Outputs** |
| **SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO PROJECTS/ RESEARCH GROUPS OR SERVICE USERS** | 75% | Design of methods/software/ models/experiments and preparation and testing of data | * To accurately identify aphids and other insects in the laboratory * Assist with fieldwork with PhD students, leveraged projects, sometimes outside of normal working hours * Assist with the efficient running of the laboratory and trapping networks * To work with other insect protocols as they arise * Competency in Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel and Word |
| **FINANCE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT** | 5% | Stock control and ordering within predetermined budgetary constraints | * To order consumables as the need arises |
| **WORKING WITH OTHERS** | 10% | Customer relations and interactions with others | * To work as part of a team to deliver the bulletins and other reports that the RIS depends on * To attend and contribute to project and group meetings |
| **KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE, COMMERCIALISATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES** | 5% | Promoting the work of the Institute and/or that of the role-holder | * To help visitors to the laboratory with techniques, samples, data interpretation etc., as required * To engage in knowledge transfer as required (e.g., demonstrations for schools, open days etc) |
| **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** | 5% | Identification and actioning of learning objectives and the opportunities and resources available to achieve these | * To seek additional training as the need arises |

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| **PERSON SPECIFICATION AND SHORTLISTING CRITERIA\*** |

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| **EDUCATION/QUALIFICATIONS** | Essential | Desirable | How Tested?\*\* |

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| 1. | A degree or equivalent professional qualification in a relevant academic/research area may be required. An alternative would be excellent practical entomological skills without any formal qualification. | Yes |  | CV/References/Interview |

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| **EXPERIENCE/KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS** | Essential | Desirable | How Tested?\*\* |

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| 1. | Fieldwork demands a high degree of mobility and tolerance of inclement weather |  | Yes | CV/References/Interview |
| 2. | Familiarity with basic statistical data/data analysis techniques |  | Yes | CV/References/Interview |
| 3. | Lab work is an essential component which demands periods of sitting and looking down a microscope. An ability to comfortably sit without issue is needed | Yes |  | CV/References/Interview |
| 4. | Entomological expertise is required along with previous experience of using a microscope and basic lab equipment including sample sorting implements |  | Yes | CV/References/Interview |
| 5. | Well-developed understanding of relevant health and safety policy and procedures and quality control standards |  | Yes | CV/References/Interview |

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| **BEHAVIOURS/COMPETENCIES** | How Tested?\*\* |

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| 1. | **Drive for Quality**: Is motivated and committed to doing their job to the best of their ability | CV/References |
| 2. | **Strategic Thinking**: Aligns actions with wider goals and models | CV/References |
| 3. | **Creativity and Innovation**: Accepts and adapts to change; makes connections and encourages a creative environment | CV/References |
| 4. | **Developing Self and Others**: Identifies their own learning and development needs | CV/References |
| 5. | **Professional Conduct**: Demonstrates honesty and respect | CV/References |
| 6. | **Productive Relationships**: Cooperates with and supports colleagues | CV/References |
| 7. | **Effective Communication**: Listens and communicates clearly to others | CV/References |

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| **GENUINE OCCUPATIONAL REQUIREMENTS** | Essential | Desirable | How Tested?\* |

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| 1. | Driving licence |  | Yes | Licence |
| 2. | Working outdoors in a challenging field work environment | Yes |  | CV/Interview |