

Job Title Head of Plant / Lead Plant Scientist

Location Brooklyn, New York

The Role

A Brooklyn Navy Yard-based business is looking for an outstanding Head of Plant / Lead Plant Scientist who combines superb technical, research and analytical capabilities with a demonstrated ability to get the right things done quickly and effectively. An ability to embrace uncertainty and continued learning is vital to this role. This individual will be leading experiment execution and analysis to improve crop quality in our indoor farming systems. The ideal candidate will have a background in horticulture research, plant biology or plant physiology, with preference towards experience with controlled environments.

Responsibilities

- Lead, design and execute plant studies, in tune with product and customer needs
- Translate results into short-term and long-term product and strategic recommendations
- Conduct experiments with a cross-functional team including mechanical engineers, software engineers, electrical engineers and industrial designers
- Strategize with leadership on new directions for R&D
- Report findings internally and to external stakeholders
- Possibly contribute to patent applications
- Remain up-to-date on developments in CEA and in related areas of plant biology
- Define methods for screening new plant varieties, including standardizing procedures and reports
- Directly supervise at least one Plant Scientist
- Manage the daily activities of the laboratory
- Source, purchase and keep track of a range of consumables

Requirements:

- MS or PhD in Horticulture, Plant Sciences or Plant Physiology
- Passion for plants
- Minimum 6 years in controlled environment agriculture, horticulture or plant science research
- Experience with characterization of plants, including imaging, phenotyping, chemical analysis, and/or objective measurements of taste and texture
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience with operating controlled environment agriculture systems

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience growing leafy greens, herbs and microgreens
- Preferred experience with fruiting crops
- An entrepreneurial mindset and spirit
- Experience working/partnering with mechanical engineers, biologists and industrial designers to design indoor farming hardware and solutions
- Experience doing research for product development