



ROLE PROFILE

Job Title:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	Division of Plant & Crop Sciences, School of Biosciences
Job Family and Level:	Research & Teaching Level 4
Contract Status:	This post will be offered on a fixed-term contract until for 8 months
Hours of Work:	Full-time (36.25 hours per week)
Location:	Plant Sciences Building, Sutton Bonington Campus
Reporting to:	Prof Rupert Fray

Purpose of the New Role:

The Post-doctoral position is part of a BBSRC funded project looking at the role of mRNA methylation in Arabidopsis. The project will identify novel mutants using bulk segregant sequencing, sequence analysis and complementation/mutation. It will also require the generation of reporter DNA cassettes for plant transformation in order to test the role of mRNA methylation in translation regulation. The post is required to achieve the objectives as defined by the grant application and collaboration with a Research Fellow who is already in position.

	Main Responsibilities	% time per year
1.	Use of radioisotopes for detection and quantification of m6A in mRNA.	35%
2.	Construction of plant transformation vectors and generation of transgenic Arabidopsis lines.	20%
3.	Analysis of gene expression using qRT-PCR and northern (radioisotopic detection).	25%
4.	Carrying out crosses between mutant Arabidopsis lines, genotyping of progeny and preparation of DNA for genomic sequencing.	20%

Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications/ Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PhD in relevant plant molecular biology related area. 	
Skills/Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documented experience in the use of radionucleotides for nucleic acid labelling and detection. Expertise in the detection and quantification of modified nucleotides in RNA. Strong background and expertise in plant genetics. Good oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information. Ability to contribute to method improvement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of sufficient breadth or depth of research methodologies and techniques to work in plant transformation. Analytical ability to analyse and illuminate data, interpret reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of plant transformation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track record in academic publication.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in RNA modification detection approaches. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervising or helping with the supervision of research students. • Knowledge of advanced genome editing.
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Additional Information

The vision of the School of Biosciences is to show excellence in research and in teaching and to become a truly outstanding place to work. A key element of that vision is to embed equality of opportunity into everything that we do, with fairness, transparency and respect being our core values.

The School has been an Athena SWAN award holder since 2009 and the current Silver award is valid until 2022. The School's active Equality and Diversity Committee has worked to introduce many initiatives to raise the profile of women in science. Just a few examples are the 'Redressing the Balance' seminar series, increasing the numbers of women being promoted from Teaching/Research Associate through to Assistant and Associate Professor levels, posters highlighting inspiring women in science, and an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion blog (<http://blogs.nottingham.ac.uk/biosciedi/>).

Additionally, there have been many equality-based initiatives of benefit to all staff such as the introduction of a School flexible working policy, transparent and fairly advertised appointments to School Committees and senior leadership roles, workshops to support promotion applications.

The University of Nottingham is an Athena SWAN Silver award holder and is a member of the Stonewall Diversity Champions network. To find out more about Athena Swan see: <http://www.ecu.ac.uk/equality-charters/athena-swan/>.



The University of Nottingham strongly endorses Athena SWAN principles, with commitment from all levels of the organisation in furthering women's careers. It is our mission to ensure equal opportunity, best working practices and fair policies for all.