



Job title	Senior Technician	Job family and level	Technical Services Level 3
School/ Department	School of Biosciences within the FoS	Location	Sutton Bonington Campus

Purpose of role

The purpose of this role is to provide high-quality, specialist technical support to research and teaching activities, supporting both staff and students within the Plant Growth Facilities and other areas as directed within the School of Biosciences, Faculty of Science. The role holder will be required to work within a team to plan and oversee the day-to-day running of specific work areas, to allocate resources, and to provide supervision/training in the use of equipment/systems and techniques to staff/students. The role holder will be responsible for the upkeep of a designated work area, as well as maintenance of equipment/systems. The role holder may be required to lead or manage a small team of technicians/staff as part of their duties. Some out of hours working may be required (with the potential opportunity for weekend working).

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	Technical running of the Work Area - Plan and oversee the day to day running of a work area, allocating resources and providing supervision to staff and/or students to ensure work objectives and standards are met. - Set and monitor work standards, adapting and refining work practices and procedures in work area. May be involved in the preparation of work Rota's and activity/scheduling in own work area.	40%
2	Technical Knowledge - Utilise technical knowledge and expertise to conceptualise and interpret the requirements of the customer. - Advise and assist staff and students on the development, design, preparation, construction, assembly and application of equipment/systems, which may include setting up of experiments/systems and the deployment of particular techniques.	20%
3	Interpretation of Data/Results Assist in the interpretation of results/data, providing quantitative and qualitative analysis, advising staff and students of the application, techniques and use of relevant technical/laboratory equipment and/or systems.	10%
4	Routine Maintenance	10%

	▪ To conduct regular routine maintenance, fault diagnosis and repair of equipment/ apparatus/systems personally or through others in own area of responsibility, as required, and advise, where necessary, on the purchasing of equipment and consumables ▪ Ensuring the adequate stocks of materials/equipment and maintaining appropriate records.	
5	Specialist Advice ▪ To provide quality and timely advice, assist and train staff and students on the development, design, preparation, construction, assembly and application of equipment/systems, the setting up of experiments and/or deployment of particular techniques/methods.	5%
6	Health and Safety ▪ Monitor Health and Safety in the performance of all duties by assessing the risks of the planned activity and performing the tasks having considered, and acted to secure, the safety of yourself and others: ▪ Ensure staff, students and/or new researchers are trained in techniques and the safe and effective use of equipment to ensure compliance with relevant health and safety regulations, including carrying out safety risk assessments.	5%
7	Communication ▪ Communicate effectively, liaising with the users of University services and/or external consultants/suppliers and provide information/instructions to the department and wider university as required. ▪ Ensure the completion of clear and accurate documentation, records and reports in order to comply with University quality standards.	5%
8	Contribution to the development of methods/ techniques/ equipment ▪ Contribute to the development of new or improved methods/techniques/equipment and to undertake further training to develop skills and techniques relevant to role.	5%
9	▪ Any other duties appropriate to the grade and role	

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	▪ Ability to solve complex issues with both plants and facilities using previous experience and situations to resolve and develop new strategies ▪ Ability to use workshop and handpower tools ▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information. ▪ Good customer relation skills. ▪ Ability to work accurately in order to maintain high standards, with the ability to work effectively under pressure. ▪ Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others internally and externally and liaise with specialist companies ▪ Able to identify and diagnose pest and diseases in temperate and tropical crops and solve complex issues with both plants and facilities using previous experience and situations to resolve and develop new strategies ▪ Able to demonstrate a working knowledge of integrated pest and disease management practices and why the importance of biological inclusion is key to success.	▪ Proven report writing skills and data visualisation. ▪ Capability to organise own and other's activities to meet set deadlines in line with objectives and in collaboration with the wider team. ▪ 'Drive for results' the ability to coach and motivate others to meet and exceed set objectives. ▪
Knowledge and experience	▪ Proven technical experience in a research/teaching environment with a breadth of experience in both horticultural and agricultural practices in different settings, and with a broad range of plants and crops. ▪ Proven technical experience in Glasshouse/ Growth Room Facilities and/or relevant experience in an alternative horticultural or crop production environment (including aspects such as disinfecting, spraying & fogging, facilities maintenance and repair).	▪ Knowledge of plant growth facility equipment and controllers (e.g., fertigation and irrigations systems). ▪ Experience of working with environmental control software. ▪ Demonstrable experience in the Design, build and maintain bespoke fertigation and irrigation systems. ▪ Understanding use of BMS systems and set points. ▪ Experience in operating large agricultural machinery with e.g., Counterbalance Forklift truck certificates of competence.

	▪ Experience of applying and adapting knowledge to controlled environment / restricted growing facilities. ▪ Experience applying and developing integrated pest and disease management protocol in line with latest industry updates. ▪ An understanding of regulations and procedure governing area of work with and ability to alter to the need for and importance of HSE and ACGM compliance	▪ Experience designing and constructing bespoke experimental equipment specific to individual user needs using a range of workshop hand/power tools on a variety of materials.
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	▪ Minimum of HNC in relevant subject, or equivalent qualifications plus considerable work experience in relevant role or Substantial work experience in relevant role	▪ City & Guilds NPTC PA1 & PA6A, PA2. ▪ Vocational horticultural qualification such as City and Guilds, RHS, apprentice etc.
Statutory, legal or special requirements		



The University of Nottingham is focused on embedding equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. As part of this, we welcome a diverse population to join our work force and therefore encourage applicants from all communities, particularly those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

Valuing people	Is friendly, engaging and receptive, putting others at ease. Actively listens to others and goes out of way to ensure people feel valued, developed and supported.
Taking ownership	Is clear on what needs to be done encouraging others to take ownership. Takes action when required, being mindful of important aspects such as Health & Safety, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and other considerations.
Forward thinking	Drives the development, sharing and implementation of new ideas and improvements to support strategic objectives. Engages others in the improvement process.
Professional pride	Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.
Always inclusive	Builds effective working relationships, recognising and including the contribution of others; promotes inclusion and inclusive practices within own work area.

