



Job title	KTP Research Associate in Bioinformatics and Advanced Genomics	Job family and level	Off-scale – KTP Associate Salary (£36,000-£42,000 per annum)
School/ Department	School of Veterinary Medicine and Science	Location	NetZeroNitrogen Ltd, Biodiscovery Institute, Nottingham NG7 2RD

Purpose of role

Based at NetZeroNitrogen Ltd (NZN) in Nottingham you will work alongside academics from the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science and School of Biosciences based in the University of Nottingham's Sutton Bonington Campus (Leicestershire) on this [Knowledge Transfer Partnership](#) (KTP).

You will be instrumental in supporting NZN in the delivery of its strategic ambition to develop cheaper, sustainable biostimulants and biofertilizers optimised to be robust and reliable that give reproducible benefits to farmers year on year and replace environmentally damaging synthetic nitrogen fertilizers. This will support and advance NZN's business growth and innovation.

You will engage with company members and will be fully embedded within NZN's R&D team, working across the business to fully understand NZN's products and requirements.

You will be supported and supervised by University of Nottingham experts whose research is grounded in the field of bioinformatics, microbial genomics, gene essentiality, host pathogen interactions, metagenomics and nitrogen cycling in plants and soils.

A key part of your role will be to transfer and embed knowledge and expertise from the University to NZN, delivering new skills and capabilities that enable NZN to innovate independently, create a step-change in product efficacy and accelerate market-traction.

This is a fixed-term contract for 24-months.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time (over 24 months)
1	Project preparation: Familiarisation and understanding of the business processes and activities. Review the project plan and undertake a mini-project. Evaluate current capabilities and study new techniques.	12.4% (3 months)
2	Orientation and project exploration: Establish relationships and develop internal project team.	5.21% (1.25 months)
3	Bioinformatics Analysis: initial assessment of computational workflows and development of methodological SOPs.	8.33% (2 months)
4	Sequencing and Genotypic Characterisation: creation of appropriate data sets.	16.67% (4 months)
5	Data Analysis at the University of Nottingham Computational Microbiology Labs.	16.67% (4 months)
6	Deployment of experiments at NetZeroNitrogen.	12.5% (3 months)
7	Integrated Analysis of Interactions.	11.46% (2.75 months)
8	Project close: Consolidation and dissemination activities and reporting.	6.67% (1.6 months)
9	Training and development: Time allocated to personal and professional development and training.	10% (2.4 months)

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills and attributes	▪ Excellent command of the English language with written and verbal communication that is clear and easy to understand by technical and non-technical stakeholders and at the appropriate level for project delivery. ▪ A proactive self-starter who meets deadlines and prioritises tasks through excellent time management, project management and organisational skills. ▪ Good problem-solving skills with the ability to consider alternative solutions to multiple related problems and adapt to a fast-changing environment. ▪ Strong analytical skills.	▪ Skills in effective collaboration with colleagues from various disciplines, showcasing prior success in a team-oriented environment.
Knowledge and experience	▪ Experience in microbial culture and advanced molecular biology techniques. ▪ Understanding of basic bioinformatic analysis. ▪ Familiarity with RNASeq, pan-genome analysis, and plant-microbe interaction studies.	▪ Experience in R&D intensive related work. ▪ Experience in technical writing, which may include peer-reviewed scientific publications. ▪ Strong understanding of both molecular biology techniques (e.g. DNA/RNA extraction, sequencing workflows) and the analytical principles underpinning genomic and transcriptomic data analysis.
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	▪ PhD (or close to completion) in microbiology, molecular biology, bioinformatics, or a related life science discipline, or equivalent relevant expertise.	
Other	▪ Willingness to undertake appropriate further training and to adopt new procedures as and when required. ▪ Willingness to engage and support commercial activities related to the dissemination and demonstration of the project outputs/outcomes to stakeholders.	

	▪ Willingness to travel to the University of Nottingham to conduct work as required for the delivery of the KTP.	
--	--	--



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.

Key relationships with others

