

Scientist- Plant Health Specialist



Job title:
Location:
Contract:

Scientist- Plant Health Specialist
Uganda
3-year contract



This role is perfect for someone looking to apply their experience and strong understanding within an organisation that is focused on helping to deliver 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals: (1) No Poverty; (2) Zero Hunger; (3) Quality Education; (5) Gender Equality; (12) Responsible Consumption and Production; (13) Climate Action; (15) Life on Land; and (17) Partnerships for the Goals.

To apply visit www.cabi.org/careers

KNOWLEDGE FOR LIFE

ABOUT US

THE ROLE:

The purpose of the role is to provide scientific and technical leadership in CABI's plant health activities, supporting the prevention, detection, management, and mitigation of plant pests and diseases. The role contributes to research, innovation, capacity strengthening, policy support, and implementation of plant health interventions that enhance food security, trade, livelihoods, and biodiversity. The Scientist/Plant Health Specialist will support the implementation of existing projects, conduct novel research and is expected to actively develop new proposals and funding streams. Responsibilities will also include the supervision of junior staff. The Scientist/Plant Health Specialist will work closely with CABI staff in the Science and Quality Function across different CABI Centres and with country partners.

WHAT YOU'LL DO:

- Design and implement projects related to plant pests, diseases, invasive species, and plant health systems with international, national and local partner organisations;
- Engaging the various ministries, private sector, government labs, etc working on Plant Health in Uganda to create sustainable partnerships;
- Support the development of pest prevention, preparedness, surveillance, and response strategies;
- Conduct scientific studies, surveys, pest risk assessments, and impact evaluations;
- Contribute to growing the existing project portfolio and develop new projects and funding opportunities, including the preparation, writing and submission of research proposals;
- Ensure scientific quality and technical excellence across Plant Health activities;
- Carry out internal and partner capacity building in Plant Health through training and mentoring;
- Publish research findings in scientific journals, technical reports, and policy briefs as well as contributing to the dissemination of research findings to stakeholders through presentations, media and other outreach materials;
- Support project management, team leadership and supervision.

ABOUT YOU:

- PhD degree in Entomology, Pathology, Crop Protection, or Plant Health with a minimum of 5 years working experience;
- Strong scientific background in plant health research and practice such as pest surveillance, pest risk analysis, pest management, or phytosanitary systems;
- Proven experience in successful project planning and management, both technically and financially;

CABI is an international, inter-governmental, not-for-profit organization that improves people's lives worldwide by providing information and applying scientific expertise to solve problems in agriculture and the environment. Our approach involves putting information, skills and tools into people's hands. CABI's 48 Member Countries guide and influence our work which is delivered by scientific staff based in our global network of centres.

CABI has had a presence in Africa for over 100 years and has offices in Kenya, Ghana and Zambia. Our African centres strive to improve livelihoods and work with the communities to address the problems they face using sustainable approaches. Our Member Countries set CABI's strategic direction in development, research and scientific publishing, helping countries tackle problems in agriculture and the environment while addressing global issues of concern such as food and nutrition security, gender equity and climate change.

We have over 500 staff based in 16 countries. We have offices in Brazil, China, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, the UK, the USA and Zambia

You can learn more at:
www.cabi.org

- Strong scientific publication record;
- Experience working with government agencies, research institutions, and development partners;
- Proven experience in project development and obtaining funds;
- Fluency in English with excellent written and oral communication skills;
- Fluency in at least one other language.

Personal attributes:

- Strong organisational and leadership skills;
- Scientific rigor and analytical thinking in planning and problem solving;
- Demonstrated project management expertise, team leadership and supervision;
- A team player with good interpersonal, communication and networking skills;
- Comfortable working on one's own initiative as well as following advice;
- Robust with operational grip and capacity to handle a demanding workload;
- Ability to work well in a multicultural environment.

ROLE DETAILS:

Hay Grade: HAY 5

Reporting to: TBD

Direct reports: TBD

Key Peer Group: Other Science and Quality team members

NOTE

This job description is not intended to be exhaustive. It is expected that the post holder and CABI will adopt a flexible attitude and accept that the duties may have to be varied according to circumstances, in particular changing corporate requirements and individual development needs.

For applicants applying for roles based outside where you are a current resident, please ensure you are eligible to work or have an appropriate work permit for that country before applying.

WHAT WE OFFER:

We aim to recruit and retain passionate people who have the necessary skills, knowledge and commitment to help us achieve our mission. We are committed to maintaining a fully inclusive culture and creating an enjoyable and a fulfilling place to work. Our benefits are designed to make our lives easier, improve our work-life balance, save money and safeguard our well-being. They include:

- 30 days annual leave allowance
- pension scheme contribution
- Life assurance
- Flexible working options including family friendly policies
- Career development opportunities to "grow with CABI", including internal promotions, mentoring and Development Bursary to visit another CABI centre
- An Employee Assistance Programme and full calendar of health and well-being initiatives
- Long Service Awards
- Employee Recognition Scheme
- Personal Accident and Business Travel Insurance
- Medical Insurance Scheme

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES:

We are a thriving international organisation attracting a diverse range of talented people from around the world. Our staff currently comprises over 30 nationalities and as an equal opportunity's employer we welcome applications from candidates irrespective of age, gender, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, religion, sexual orientation or marital status. No applicant will be disadvantaged by conditions which cannot be shown to be justified and selection will be based on merit.

STAFF FEEDBACK:



To apply please submit your CV and a covering letter via our online recruitment portal at www.cabi.org/careers by 10th November 2026.



Visit us on [LinkedIn](#) to find out more about working at CABI



Africa

Ghana

CABI, CSIR Campus
No.6 Agostino Neto Road
Airport Residential Area
P.O. Box CT 8630,
Cantonments
Accra, Ghana
T: +233 (0)302 797 202
E: westafrica@cabi.org

Kenya

CABI, Canary Bird
673 Limuru Road,
Muthaiga
P.O. Box 633-00621
Nairobi, Kenya
T: +254 (0)20 2271000/20
E: africa@cabi.org

Zambia

CABI, Southern Africa Centre
5834 Mwange Close
Kalundu, P.O. Box 37589
Lusaka, Zambia
T: +260 967619665
E: southernafrica@cabi.org

Americas

Brazil

CABI, UNESP-Fazenda
Experimental Lageado,
FEPAP (Escritorio da CABI)
Rua Dr. Jose Barbosa De
Barros 1780
Fazenda Experimental
Lageado
CEP: 18.610-307
Batutut, San Paulo, Brazil
T: +55 (14) 3880 7670
E: y.colmenarez@cabi.org

Trinidad & Tobago

CABI, 59 Gordon Street,
Curepe, St. Augustine
TUNAPUNA 331323
Trinidad & Tobago
T: +1 868 6457628
E: caribbeanLA@cabi.org

USA

CABI, One Lincoln Street
24th Floor
Boston, MA 02111
T: +1 (617) 682 9015
E: h.jansen@cabi.org

Asia

China

CABI, Beijing Representative
Office
Internal Post Box 85
Chinese Academy of
Agricultural Sciences
12 Zhongguancun Nandajie
Beijing 100081, China
T: +86 (0)10 82105692
E: china@cabi.org

India

CABI, 2nd Floor, CG Block,
NASC Complex, DP Shastri
Marg
Opp. Todapur Village, PUSA
New Delhi – 110012, India
T: +91 (0)11 25841906
E: india@cabi.org

Malaysia

CABI, PO Box 210
43400 UPM Serdang
Selangor, Malaysia
T: +60 (0)3 894329321
E: cabisea@cabi.org

Pakistan

CABI, Opposite 1-A,
Data Gunj Baksh Road
Satellite Town, PO Box 8
Rawalpindi-Pakistan
T: +92 51 9292062/ +92 51
8434979
E: cabi.cwa@cabi.org

Europe

Netherlands

CABI, Landgoed Leusderend 32
3832 RC Leusden
The Netherlands
T: +31 (0)33 4321031
E: netherlands@cabi.org

Switzerland

CABI, Rue des Grillons 1
CH-2800 Delemont
Switzerland
T: +41 (0)32 4214870
E: europe-CH@cabi.org

UK

CABI, Nosworthy Way
Wallingford, Oxfordshire
OX10 8DE, UK
T: +44 (0)1491 832111
E: corporate@cabi.org

CABI, Silwood Park
Ascot, Berkshire
SL5 7PY, UK
T: +44 (0)1491 829080
E: microbialservices@cabi.org
E: cabieurope-uk@cabi.org