

## JOB DESCRIPTION

|   |   |                                |           |
|---|---|--------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Job Title:</b>   | Postharvest Research Assistant  | <b>Grade:</b>                  | SG5/SG6   |
| <b>Department:</b>  | Natural Resources Institute   | <b>Date of Job Evaluation:</b> | June 2017 |
| <b>Role reports to:</b>   | Postharvest Research Assistant and Facility Manager   |                                |           |
| <b>Direct Reports</b>   | Senior Research Fellow: Postharvest Physiologist and Pathologist<br>Principal Scientist: Reader in Plant Physiology |                                |           |
| <b>Indirect Reports:</b>  |   |                                |           |
| <b>Other Key contacts:</b>  |   |                                |           |
| This role profile is non-contractual and provided for guidance. It will be updated and amended from time to time in accordance with the changing needs of the University and the requirements of the job. |   |                                |           |

### **PURPOSE OF ROLE:**

The Natural Resources Institute has established the Produce Quality Centre (PQC) a collaborative research centre with East Malling Research focusing on UK based postharvest research on perishable crops. The Centre is currently running a wide range of trials with both government and industry funding.

The research assistant would undertake the following activities:

- Assist in produce quality assessment for a range of storage trials
- Undertake sample preparation for analysis
- Assist in coordinating field trials, and collecting samples from field and storage locations off site (mainly within Kent, Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire).
- Undertake laboratory based trials to investigate postharvest biology of fresh produce with supervision from experienced staff
- Manage data sets, including data input and analysis
- Provide support on management of the Jim Mount Building

### **KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:**

The position will be based at the Produce Quality Centre (PQC) postharvest facilities at East Malling Research, where the technician will work supervised by Postharvest Research Assistant and Facility Manager, Senior Research Fellow: Postharvest Physiologist and Pathologist and Principal Scientist: Reader in Plant Physiology. The assistant will be trained in the methods to be used, but will then be expected to be able to work with minimal supervision.

### **Team Specific:**

- Be part of discussions to plan trial protocols.
- Undertake day to day management of trials.
- Assist in coordinating field trials, and collecting samples from field and storage locations

- Input of data to excel, and data analysis. Training will be provided as appropriate

**Generic:**

- Be able to work independently on site and off site
- Work co-operatively with other team members

**Managing Self**

- Improve ability to work efficiently, punctually and accurately.
- Improve data management skills

**Core Requirements**

- Adhere to and promote the University's policies on Equality and Diversity and Information Security Ensure compliance with Health & Safety regulations
- Support and promote the University's Sustainability policies, including the Carbon Management Plan, and carry out duties in a resource efficient way, recognising the shared responsibility of minimising the university's negative environmental impacts wherever possible.

**Additional Requirements:**

- None

**KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

- Efficient management of trials, data collection and organisation

**KEY RELATIONSHIPS (Internal & External):**

- Line manager
- Other assistants
- Colleagues within the PQC
- Visitors to PQC

| <b>PERSON SPECIFICATION</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Essential</b>  | <b>Desirable</b>  |
| <b>Experience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of field/laboratory trials relating to horticulture (SG5 &amp; SG6)</li> <li>• Experience of carrying out postharvest quality assessment of fruit (SG6)</li> <li>• Experience of data collection and management (SG6)</li> <li>• Experience of working in a team (SG5 &amp; SG6)</li> </ul> | <b>Experience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul> |
| <b>Skills</b>   | <b>Skills</b>   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of flexibility and teamwork (SG5 &amp; SG6)</li> <li>• Ability to work with minimum supervision(SG5 &amp; SG6)</li> <li>• Good skills of observation(SG5 &amp; SG6)</li> <li>• Computer literacy and data analysis (SG6)</li> <li>• Driving licence(SG5 &amp; SG6)</li> </ul> <p><b>Qualifications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 A Levels</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are looking for people who can help us deliver the <a href="#">values</a> of the University of Greenwich: Excellence, Determination, Inclusivity, Ambition and Creativity</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul> <p><b>Qualifications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor's degree</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul> |
|--|--|