



World Vegetable Center

Job announcement

Research Assistant – Bacteriology (project-based)

Headquarters, Shanhua, Tainan, Taiwan

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a non-profit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and five regional offices around the globe. WorldVeg's research and development work focuses on breeding improved vegetable lines, developing and promoting good production practices, reducing postharvest losses, and improving the nutritional value of vegetables. The center aims to raise awareness of the importance of vegetables for improved health and global poverty alleviation. For more information, please visit our website: worldveg.org.

WorldVeg is seeking a Project-Based Research Assistant with a focus on **plant bacteriology**. The position involves supporting disease surveillance, diagnostics, and resistance screening for plant bacterial pathogens, and requires familiarity with molecular biology techniques.

Key Responsibilities:

- Collect disease samples, isolation, culturing, and maintenance of plant bacterial pathogen strains.
- Conduct research on the detection, identification, and characterization of plant bacterial pathogens through inoculation of differential host plants (particularly solanaceous crops) and symptom observation, as well as the application of biochemical, serological, and molecular techniques (including DNA extraction, PCR, and gel electrophoresis).
- Isolate, screen, and identify potential biocontrol agents, and evaluate their efficacy in disease suppression through laboratory, greenhouse, and/or field trials.
- Develop and apply assays for screening new sources of disease resistance, support resistance breeding and selection, and investigate the genetic basis of resistance and susceptibility.
- Document research activities, including recording, managing, and analyzing data, and assisting to the preparation of research reports and scientific publications.
- Perform other assigned duties, including maintaining daily operations of the laboratory, greenhouse, and net house; preparing experimental materials (e.g., culture media and chemical solutions) and equipment (e.g., autoclaving); managing supplies procurement; and coordinating equipment maintenance and servicing.
- Perform other duties as required by the needs of the Center and the Supervisor.

Required Qualifications and Competencies (Technical and Behavioral)

- A Bachelor's degree or an Associate degree (junior college) in Plant Pathology, Biology, Agriculture, or a closely related field.
- Solid understanding of plant pathology, with familiarity in basic molecular biology techniques.
- Practical experience in laboratory, greenhouse, and/or field work is preferred.
- Demonstrated interest in international agricultural research and development.
- Ability to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team environment
- Proven ability to deliver timely outputs, including experimental data and technical reports.
- An ability to communicate in English would be an advantage.

Note: 1. This is a Nationally Recruited Staff (NRS) position.

2. The successful candidate will begin employment in July 2026.

The candidate we hire will embody WorldVeg’s Five Core Values:

1. *Dedication to Innovation and Knowledge Sharing* Supports the conduct of world-class science, respects ethical standards, and is committed to transparently sharing results.
2. *Commitment to Impact* Aspires to achieve positive, tangible, and lasting impact contributing to Sustainable Development Goals.
3. *Commitment to Partnerships* Believes in the value of partnerships to advance research for development.
4. *Respect for People* Respect the diversity of gender, culture, ethnic origin, religion, age, beliefs, and views.
5. *Respect for the Environment* Strives to minimize its environmental impact and to introduce greener technology and practices.

How to Apply: Applicants should submit a letter of application explaining their suitability for and interest in the position along with a curriculum vitae in English, a recent passport-size photograph, names and addresses (including telephone and e-mail) of three referees, and date of availability to jobapply@worldveg.org or the job bank site before 11 May 2026. Please mention the position title in the subject line.