Laboratory Technician

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Laboratory Technician

Analytical Microscopy Laboratory, Foreign Material Identification, Laboratory Services Division

Temporary full-time from November 2022 to November 30, 2023
Temporary absence of the regular incumbent
Hiring #: 2022-0789

Please read the Application Instructions [1] before applying

The primary emphasis of the microscopy lab is to provide rapid, fee-for-service testing to the Agri-Food industry. An appreciation of maintaining client confidentiality and experience handling time-sensitive, legal samples is important. The successful applicant will provide advanced microscopy analysis in the analytical microscopy lab: for the identification of foreign materials in food products; to certify meat samples are free from Trichinella in an accredited program; and perform the analysis of veterinary uroliths. The applicant must be proficient in the operation, alignment and maintenance of a variety of light microscopes, scanning electron microscopes, x-ray microanalysis systems, FTIR spectrometers and IR microscopes. Experience with polarized light microscopy and crystallographic techniques for the determination of the refractive index of crystals is required for urolith analysis. Final reports must be written for clients, therefore compilation and interpretation of data from numerous analytical methods is required to reach conclusions about the identity of foreign materials and uroliths. Experience with digital microphotography and digital image processing using Adobe Photoshop is also required.

The successful applicant will have a minimum three year college diploma in a scientific field, B.Sc. preferred, plus some related experience, or the equivalent, in the study and identification of materials using light, electron and infrared microscopy techniques. The applicant should be self-motivated and be able to demonstrate they can work both independently and with other members of the lab team. Quick assimilation of new material is essential. Demonstrated experience handling sensitive legal samples and manipulation of microscopic particles is critical.

Other requirements include: experience with QA/QC protocols and laboratory accreditation requirements; good health and safety practices and experience handling and disposing of highly toxic materials and liquid nitrogen; capable of following an accredited method for cutting and processing fresh pork/meat samples for parasite detection; familiarity with analysis of veterinary uroliths using polarized light microscopy, scanning electron microscopy with x-ray microanalysis, and FTIR spectroscopy; proven verbal/writing skills and experience creating reports and communicating with clients, other laboratory staff and scientists is essential; experience working with Photoshop, Word, and Excel as well as a computerized Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) is also required.

Covering Position Number 483-076
Classification USW, Local 4120 Salary Band 5
Normal Hiring Range $25.92 - $28.96 per hour

At the University of Guelph, fostering a culture of inclusion [2] is an institutional imperative. The University invites and encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in employment, who may contribute to further diversification of our Institution.
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