

Role: Crop Production Systems Senior Scientist (Cereals & Oilseeds)**Band: E****Function: Technical Directorate, Research**

Banding Descriptor: Senior experts or leaders, roles with experience to lead resources, lead the formulation and implementation of project and policy and in some areas, people. With or without budgetary responsibility and line management responsibility

Contribution to Corporate Business Plan: Leading and Contributing

Role purpose: Direct management of the research/ programme within designated areas, from inception to report by liaison with key stakeholders, provide a lead for designated cross sector/division technical topics.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead and develop the functional Team responsible for the research and knowledge transfer for the Recommended List programme, agronomy and crop protection, ensuring AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds has a strong independent knowledge base. Work with the Crop Production Systems Team Leader to coordinate appropriate skills development through a focus on training and personal development.
- Coordinate a robust and transparent variety recommendation process through the RL Crop Committees and RL Project Board, ensuring that all relevant information, results and reports are accessible to the industry.
- Contribute to the development of AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds's research and KT strategy and in consultation with levy payers and stakeholders deliver activities that provide benefits that address the needs of our levy payers and stakeholders and address a broad understanding of market requirements and the political & environmental drivers that underpin these.
- Develop the RL project and agronomy and crop protection programme in line with the strategy, and develop robust practices to commission, manage, monitor and evaluate project activities including the economic impact and value for money delivered for levy payers. Initiate and contribute to cross-sector research opportunities. Understand external funder's priorities e.g. Research Councils/TSB etc. to capture opportunities for co-funding.
- Financial management of the RL project budget of c. £1.3m p.a. Ensure strict accounting requirements are adhered to with regular budget reforecasts and prepare budget updates for the R&KT Committee and AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds Board. Ensure that money is spent effectively and within prescribed limits.
- Develop partnerships in research and KT by establishing strong relationships with key stakeholders, trade associations, research establishments and other research funders. New partnerships should be developed to enable AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds to optimise the delivery of the research and KT strategy.

Delegated Authority:

- Has AHDB budget holder status in accordance with the Standing Financial Instructions (up to £10,000)
- Provide cover for the appropriate Head of Discipline

Person Specification – Knowledge/skills/experience:

- Post-graduate research experience in a field of study relevant to cereals and oilseeds production or use
- An understanding of and experience of the agricultural research and knowledge transfer environment
- An understanding of relevant legislation and policy
- Management experience
- Experience of the development and management of research projects and programmes
- Excellent project management skills
- Financial management