

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title	Forest Pathologist
Reports To	<i>Team Leader, Forest Protection</i>
Purpose of Position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out research including literature reviews, experimental design and execution, analysis and interpretation of data and publication of results. • Specifically, develop and lead research in pathology, and collaborate with others at Scion, nationally and internationally to do this. • Assist others in the team with diagnosis of disorders of forest trees, and contribute to Scion's diagnostic and advisory service on forest and tree disorders to central and local government, private companies and members of the public. • Enhance Scion's molecular pathology capability
Organisational Values	<p>Vital – We lead with vitality and positive attitude and thrive on professional and personal challenge. We are defined by our passion for our science and the drive to make a difference.</p> <p>Innovative – We listen and debate with vigour and rigour to uncover new thinking to identify solutions that matter. We harness our diversity to deliver prosperity for New Zealand.</p> <p>Collaborative – At the heart of the Scion culture is trust. We value and thrive on high trust, respectful partnerships with our colleagues, clients and communities.</p>
Key Result Areas (Key Accountabilities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To carry out a programme of research on forest pathology with emphasis on the exclusion or early detection of pathogens not established in New Zealand and reducing damage from those already present. ➤ Use and develop molecular tools to identify fungi on living trees. ➤ To assist in the communication of research to all interested parties, both within and outside of Scion. This will involve preparation of reports, scientific papers, and participation in meetings, seminars and conferences. ➤ To mentor and train junior pathologists and others using molecular tools. ➤ Ensure compliance with Scion's Health & Safety Policy, and take a proactive approach to ensuring that all work practices are safe. ➤ Undertake additional projects as required.

**Role Competencies
(The skills, knowledge and behaviours essential to achieve effective performance in the role)**

- Demonstrated ability to conduct research in plant/forest pathology, with at least 5 - 10 years research experience and a PhD or equivalent degree.
- Demonstrated ability in the use of DNA analysis methodologies (ie purification, PCR, sequencing) for the identification of plant/tree disorders
- Demonstrated ability in mycology including isolation, identifications and culture methods.
- The ability to undertake field research in plant/tree pathology.
- A sound appreciation of the methods of scientific investigation (including statistical analysis) and the intellectual ability to undertake scientific research.
- The demonstrated ability to effectively communicate the results of scientific research to both specialists and non-specialists.

Relationships

- Internal
 - Other pathologists
 - Project leaders
 - Team leader
 - Technical staff
 - Summer students
- External
 - Forestry companies
 - MAF
 - Other NZ research institutes and Universities
 - Pathologists and colleagues overseas

Financial Accountability

- Authority to spend – Up to delegated authority and within agreed limits for consumables, minor assets, internal travel, external services.
- Budgetary Responsibility – Responsible for financial performance of individual tasks up to \$200,000 per annum. Expected to prepare funding applications and proposals as required.

People Management Responsibility

- Number of Direct Reports – up to 2

Targets to be Achieved

- To be set on appointment.