

Research Scientist II, Associate Strawberry Breeder – Watsonville, CA

About the Role

The Research Scientist II, Associate Strawberry Breeder will provide leadership of strawberry breeding research projects, perform experimental design and data analysis, and share breeding and program management duties with the Principal Scientist.

About Driscoll's

Driscoll's is the global market leader for fresh strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries. With more than 100 years of farming heritage and hundreds of independent growers around the world, Driscoll's is passionate about growing fresh, beautiful and delicious berries. Our values of humility, passion and trustworthiness have guided our mission to delight consumers around the world.

Driscoll's exclusive patented berry varieties are developed through years of research using only natural breeding methods – meaning, no GMOs. From farm-to-table, we focus on delivering a high quality, premium berry experience with our many supply chain partners.

Driscoll's is the trusted brand for Only the Finest Berries [™]. For more information, please visit our website at <u>www.driscolls.com</u>.

Responsibilities

- Lead a number of research projects as part of the global strawberry breeding program. Project areas cover a wide range of subjects and choice of projects can be tailored to some degree to fit the skills and interests of the job holder. Projects could include: quantitative genetics, genomic selection, cytogenetics, disease and pest resistance, abiotic stress physiology, QTL mapping, and molecular marker development.
- Coordinate applied marker efforts for the North American strawberry breeding programs, in conjunction with the other strawberry breeders, breeding greenhouse, and molecular groups.
- Assist Principal Scientist in management of the Watsonville strawberry breeding program.
- Analysis and interpretation of breeding and experimental data.
- Contribute to field and post-harvest evaluations and selection process as part of the breeding group.
- Work with breeders throughout Driscoll's strawberry breeding group to share and implement advances made in understanding markers and traits.
- Follow Company policies and practices while representing Driscoll's in an ethical and business-like manner in all interactions with employees, government agencies, growers, etc.
- Performs other duties as instructed by supervisor.



Qualifications

- Ph.D. in Plant Breeding, Horticulture, or related field or M.S. with 3+ years.
- Broad skill set spanning multiple disciplines within plant science and genetics, and the ability to be comfortable working across this range.
- Specifics of job responsibilities will be tailored to the candidate's skills and interest.
- Ability to work independently and in teams.
- Good organizational skills and the ability to coordinate several projects simultaneously. Spanish language skills a plus but not required.
- Good verbal and written communication skills. Must maintain a valid California driver's license.

To apply, please visit our website at <u>www.driscolls.com</u> and submit your resume and cover letter to **Job #859944**. In your cover letter, please provide a brief overview of your breeding experience and why you are interested in working for Driscoll's.