

Position Description

Incitec Pivot Fellowship

Position No:	50142395
Department:	Department of Animal, Plant and Soil Sciences
School:	Life Sciences
Campus/Location:	Melbourne (Bundoora)
Classification:	Level B – Research Fellow
Employment Type:	Full-time, Fixed-term
Position Supervisor:	Professor, Plant Science (AgriBio)
Number:	50038629
Other Benefits:	http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jobs/working/benefits

Further information about:

La Trobe University - <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/about>

School of Life Science, Centre for AgriBioscience – [Department of Animal, Plant and Soil Sciences](#)

For enquiries only contact:

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Position Description

Level B - Incitec Pivot Fellowship

A Level B research only academic is expected to carry out independent and/or team research within the relevant field and carry out activities to develop their research expertise relevant to the particular field of research.

Position Context

As part of La Trobe University's ongoing commitment to solving real world problems at the regional, national and international level, the University in partnership with Incitec Pivot have established a fellowship to carry out outstanding research in the area of plant nutrition. The appointee will be physically located in AgriBio, a state of art facility to support Agriculture and Biotechnology research, and associated with the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Plant Energy Biology and Australian Research Council Industrial Transformation Hub for Legumes in Sustainable Agriculture. The facility contains numerous plant growth and containment and central platform research facilities to support research in a variety of disciplines. AgriBio also provides a next generation sequencing facility dedicated to agricultural research, NMR, mass spectrometry and microscopy supported by dedicated technical staff. AgriBio houses 500 research staff from the University and the Victorian State Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources that together develop innovative, novel and multi-disciplinary approaches to support agriculture and food production in the coming decades.

Research at AgriBio currently encompasses a wide variety of disciplines relating to Agriculture and Life Sciences and is a major component of one on the University's five Research focus areas; namely, Securing Food, Water and the Environment. The unique environment combines University, State and Industry based researchers within a single environment dedicated to undertaking research that develops aspects of agriculture.

For this position, you will be employed as a Level B academic for a fixed three year term and expected to have carried out your PhD studies at an outstanding level as evidenced by high quality publications. This position will provide an outstanding environment for an early career researcher to establish and develop their research record in the discipline of plant nutrition, with an emphasis on phosphate nutrition. The appointee will be excellent at working collaboratively with a range of researchers currently in AgriBio working on various aspects of plant nutrition.

Duties at this level include:

- Conduct and publish, or otherwise disseminate high quality and/or high impact research/scholarly activities under limited supervision either independently or as part of a team.
- Obtain (or assist) research funding from external sources.
- Contribute to writing up research findings for publication and dissemination.
- Engage with industry and community to ensure that all research results are communicated and adopted by industry, community and/or government.
- Provide advice within the field of the employee's research to Honours and postgraduate students.
- Acquire and interpret research data and results. Run analyses and tests using specified and agreed techniques and models. Contribute to the development of techniques, models and methods.
- Contribute to and uphold a robust and ambitious research culture.

- Provide service to the profession and/or discipline through professional association memberships.
- Undertake limited administrative functions primarily connected with the area of research.
- Contribute to a collegiate Departmental, School, college and University culture that values excellence in research.
- Contribute to the activities of the department and school, as agreed with the supervisor and as consistent with the requirements of any external contracts relating to funding of the position.
- Contribute to building relationships at local and national level.

Key Selection Criteria

- Completion of a PhD in plant genomics, molecular biology or other relevant discipline in the general field of plant nutrition.
- Evidence of experience in research and evaluation and the ability to work effectively under limited supervision or independently.
- A record of contribution to publications, conference papers and/or reports, or professional or technical contributions which provide evidence of research potential.
- Experience in the analysis and modelling of data, including the capacity to integrate data from a range of sources and of uneven quality.
- Effective oral and written communication skills, including the ability to interact effectively with people from a diverse range of backgrounds.
- Demonstrated ability to work as a member of a team in a cooperative and collegial manner.
- Demonstrated high level of self-motivation and personal management skills.

Desirable

- Research experience working on phosphorus utilisation in plants
- Bio-informatic skills for analyses and or integration of “omic” datasets
- Experience with interacting with industry partners or primary producers.

Other relevant information:

- The position description is indicative of the initial expectation of the role and subject to changes to University goals and priorities, activities or focus of the job.
- This successful applicant will be provided with the industry agreement for this fellowship and will be required to agree to the conditions as part of this fellowship.

La Trobe Values

At La Trobe we:

- take a world view
- pursue ideas and excellence with energy
- treat people with respect and work together
- are open, friendly and honest
- hold ourselves accountable for making great things happen.

La Trobe Cultural Qualities

Our cultural qualities underpin everything we do. As we work towards realising the strategic goals of the University we strive to work in a way which is aligned to our four cultural qualities:

- We are **Connected**: We connect to the world outside — the students and communities we serve, both locally and globally.
- We are **Innovative**: We tackle the big issues of our time to transform the lives of our students and society.
- We are **Accountable**: We strive for excellence in everything we do. We hold each other and ourselves to account, and work to the highest standard.
- We **Care**: We care about what we do and why we do it. We believe in the power of education and research to transform lives and global society. We care about being the difference in the lives of our students and communities.
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Initials: GS

Date: July 2017