Join the team making real growth happen

Perennia Food and Agriculture Corporation is Nova Scotia's development agency focusing on the food sector. Our mission is to support success, transformation and economic development in Nova Scotia's agriculture, seafood, cannabis, and food and beverage sectors. That means our team of bright, engaged specialists are always learning, always evolving, and always ready to take on a new challenge. **So, what are you waiting for?**

COME GROW WITH US.

Molecular Biology and Agricultural Sciences Co-op Student

Do you have an interest in learning more about agriculture and supporting agriculture development in Nova Scotia? At Perennia, we look for highly energetic students with initiative and drive, who are looking for an opportunity to gain valuable experience and develop their competencies while working as part of a great team. We believe students are the very people who will help shape the industry and our future direction.

Perennia's Plant Health Lab based out of Acadia University's David Huestis Innovation Pavilion is seeking a Molecular Biology and Agricultural Sciences Co-op student to support the Lab and our Field Services team. This position provides an opportunity for students who are currently pursuing science programs related to agriculture, biology, and environmental sciences to get hands on experience working with scientists and research associates on a variety of lab and field based agricultural research projects.

Principal Responsibilities

The Molecular Biology and Agricultural Sciences Co-op student responsibilities may include, but are not limited to:

- Assisting with a variety of research projects including but not limited to molecular biology based plant disease diagnostics, classical plant pathology, efficacy and field trials, and management of a standard operating procedure (SOP) database.
- Pathology sample collection and analysis, field trial assistance, assisting in harvest of field trials, data entry, and SOP editing
- Creative problem solving and communication with team members.

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The ideal candidate will have:

- Completed at least two years (4 semesters) of studies towards a B.Sc. degree in Applied Science, Biology, Chemistry, Engineering, Environmental Science, or a related field.
- Must be enrolled in a work term as part of a co-operative education program at a Nova Scotia university or college
- Prior work experience will be considered an asset.
- Ability to work independently and as a member of a cross appointed team
- Willingness to learn new skills
- Aptitude for collecting and presenting detailed scientific data
- Ability to plan/organize work and set goals
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Computer literacy (particularly Microsoft Office)
- Basic laboratory skills are required, with molecular lab experience considered an asset
- Willingness to work in a variety of settings such as the molecular lab and the field is required
- Some travel (within NS) is required
- Driver's license and access to a vehicle
- Some evening and/or weekend work will occasionally be required

Experience Gained:

The successful candidate:

- Will be exposed to a variety of agricultural research projects, in the lab and in the field. Student will be working closely with experienced scientists, pathologists, commodity specialists, and research associates.
- Will gain a broad understanding of the agri-food industry in Nova Scotia and the issues faced by local commodity growers.
- Will gain experience using diverse equipment (lab and field)
- Will gain an understanding of the growth and analysis of agricultural commodity products as applied to real world situations. Examples include diagnostic screening of samples for plant pathogens of concern, collection of field trial data for efficacy and research projects, and exploratory research on new agricultural commodities for the support of Nova Scotia's rural economy.

The Molecular Biology and Agricultural Sciences Co-op Student will work under the supervision of scientists, field research associates, and the Manager of Horticulture/Agricultural Services.

This position will run from May 2023 to August 2023 for a period of 16 weeks. The work week will be 37.5 hours per week, with some flexibility in working hours required.

To apply for this exciting position at Perennia, please email a combined PDF cover letter and resume noting potential start date if you were the successful candidate to **hr@perennia.ca** by noon on **February 3, 2023**.

Only those candidates who move onto the interview phase will be contacted.

Perennia is an equal opportunity employer

For more information or to learn about Perennia visit **perennia.ca**