

# **Conservation Tissue Culture & Seed Bank Laboratory Coordinator**

Full Time – Exempt

Reporting to VP Conservation and Research

## **Job Summary:**

The Atlanta Botanical Garden is seeking a highly motivated and results- oriented associate to join our Conservation and Research team focusing on tissue culture, micropropagation, and orchid research in the Ron Determann Tissue Culture Laboratory (TCL). The successful candidate will work in a team environment to perform tissue culture procedures, manage the Conservation Seed Bank, and develop new protocols for various imperiled plant species. The individual needs to be detail oriented, maintain excellent records of experiments performed, and note problems and recommend solutions.

## **Key Responsibilities:**

- Perform *in vitro* plant cell/tissue culture and micropropagation on species of conservation concern and living collections
- Design and carry out germination and optimization experiments independently or in a team
- Manage Conservation Seed Bank and help establish updated documentation
- Maintain detailed records of experiments
- Document standard operating procedures and lab protocols for all lab activities
- Analyze experimental data and provide written reports, presentations, and publications
- Provide care and maintenance of plants growing in the tissue culture laboratory
- Provide training and guidance to other members of staff, interns, and volunteers
- Create educational materials for TCL and micropropagation trainings
- Conduct training workshops for partners, collaborators, university students, and national and international interns
- Assist with tours of tissue culture facilities upon opening of the new Southeastern Center for Conservation in Summer 2019
- Manage a team of volunteers currently working on tissue culture projects in lab
- Manage yearly Tissue Culture Lab budget and grant-funded projects in TCL
- Manage chemical and physical lab inventory, maintain and operate all lab equipment, and manage and implement rigorous safety protocols
- Assist with the continued development of the orchid collection via micropropagation techniques and maintain accurate and up to date plant records

## **Qualifications:**

- Master's level degree in botany, biology, horticulture, or related science.
- Minimum of 4 years' hands-on experience in plant tissue culture and micropropagation, preference given to experience with orchids and imperiled plants
- Highly organized with the ability to work independently in a fast-paced environment with a high attention to detail and adherence to laboratory research
- Exceptional written and verbal communication skills
- High level critical thinking, analytic and proactive problem-solving skills
- Strong ability to document experiments and troubleshoot protocols

- Demonstrated ability to work effectively and cooperatively in a team environment
- Demonstrated ability to provide training and support to a wide variety of audiences

**Preferences:**

- Experience with *in vitro* asymbiotic and symbiotic seed germination of orchid species
- Fluency in Spanish preferred.
- Additional teaching background is preferred

Some travel is required for conferences and possible field work.