

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

*Twin Cities Campus*

*Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics  
College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences*

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## **RESEARCHER 6 POSITION - DATA MANAGER**

### POSITION SUMMARY

The University of Minnesota's Dept. of Agronomy and Plant Genetics and Green Lands Blue Waters seek to hire a Researcher 6 for an interdisciplinary, multi-institutional research, education, and extension project. This is a 1.0 FTE term position with funding for 2 years with potential for extension. Candidates who can work in the Twin Cities are preferred.

### POSITION BACKGROUND

This position is funded by a USDA Coordinated Agricultural Project grant to integrate nation-wide activities to support the enterprise of the world's first large-scale perennial grain crop called Kernza®. This highly interdisciplinary project is based at the University of Minnesota and includes six other universities and numerous other organizations and individuals representing a broad range of partners including nonprofits, farmers, businesses and policy makers. Further information is available on the project website, [kernza.org/kernzacap](http://kernza.org/kernzacap). The project includes research, education, and outreach/extension activities that fall within six core objectives: 1) advance germplasm and trait evaluation, 2) enhance agronomic and on-farm knowledge, 3) improve environmental quality, 4) engage education, extension and policy, 5) develop supply chains and economic drivers, and 6) activate transformative change through intentional integration. The person in this position will lead and collaborate on central tasks necessary for data analysis, curation, and synthesis for the project's successful operation and will coordinate across all objectives and stakeholders. This position will be supervised by, and will work closely with, the data management team on the following tasks:

- **Research and data analysis - 20%**
  - Assist with and/or oversee data analysis from research trials
  - Synthesize data between and across objective teams
  - Actively contribute to publications where appropriate, including leading or co-authoring publications resulting from this project.
  - Track academic outputs including peer-reviewed publications across the project; support teams in making progress toward publication timeline goals.
- **Data management - 80%**
  - Assist the data management team in maintaining a platform for data collection, curation, and sharing across the project. Data from this project are generated from a broad range of disciplinary research teams and are both qualitative and quantitative. For example, datasets include genomes, plant traits, crop yield, soil moisture, climate variables, market conditions, and many other items, to name a few.
  - Facilitate the exchange of data among project teams and assist with formatting and tracking.

- Coordinate the timely backup and curation of metadata and data products from project teams.
- Participate in managing and sharing surveys and other qualitative data in partnership with social scientists working on the project.
- Maintain data sharing and ownership policies and publication and authorship agreements.
- Develop and implement a plan for long-term storage of data that is transparent and publicly accessible.
- Work with the project team to explore opportunities to organize and synthesize data from related projects to contribute to external life cycle analysis (LCA). Participate with a range of internal and external partners to explore additional LCA needs.

#### REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD, or MA/MS with 4 years experience working with large, complex datasets in fields of natural sciences.
- Record of scientific publications
- Experience with data analysis and management with R

#### PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS (seeking a person with at least some of the following):

- Proven track record working with interdisciplinary, cross-sector teams
- Experience with complex projects
- Experience with holistic, high-level systems thinking
- Record of diversity work and an understanding of the barriers to success of minorities in the fields of higher education, agriculture or similar fields
- Awareness and experience establishing protocols to foster equity around data sharing, authorship, and other forms of attribution

#### SALARY AND BENEFITS

Salary is in the \$60,000-65,000 range (1.0 full time equivalent salary) and commensurate with experience and qualifications. Available benefits include University retirement; group life, medical, and dental insurance plans. Detailed benefits information is available at: <http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/benefits/index.html>.

#### HOW TO APPLY

Apply through the University of Minnesota online employment system (<https://hr.umn.edu/Jobs/Find-Job>), using position number: **358820**. To be considered for this position, please click the Apply button and follow the instructions. You will be given the opportunity to complete an online application which will include attaching a cover letter, resume/CV, and list of three professional references.

Review of applications will begin January 2, 2024 and continue until the position is filled. Direct inquiries to: Dr. Jacob Jungers, [junge037@umn.edu](mailto:junge037@umn.edu)

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national

origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.