

THE ORGANIC RESEARCH CENTRE

OUTLINE JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCHER (G6)

RESPONSIBLE TO: SENIOR SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCHER

To undertake the generic principal duties and role requirements of a researcher as set out on the following pages and specifically within this context to:

1. Carry out data analysis and contribute to research projects specifically, but not exclusively, in the Environment, Sustainability and Health programme. Specific projects are listed below but this list is not exclusive:
 - 1.1. Innovation for Sustainable Sheep and Goat Production in Europe ([iSAGE](#))
 - 1.2. Sustainable Economic and Ecological Grazing Systems – Learning from Innovative Practitioners ([SEEGSLIP](#))
 - 1.3. Public Goods tool ([PG-tool](#)) development, promotion and application
 - 1.4. Innovative and sustainable intensification of integrated food and non-food systems to develop climate-resilient agro-ecosystems in Europe and beyond ([SustainFARM](#))
 - 1.5. Evidence review on environmental impact of organic farming and relevant data sources
2. Specific tasks to be undertaken may include (depending on the current skills of the person to be appointed):
 - 2.1. Analysis and reporting of PG Tool (Excel spreadsheet) data from 220 farms for the iSAGE project (analysis to include statistical analysis – ANOVA, PCA, linear regression – using R and/or Excel)
 - 2.2. Analysis and reporting of PG Tool data from 60 farms for the SEEGSLIP project (descriptive stats only)
 - 2.3. Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) of 6 iSAGE case studies using SimaPro
 - 2.4. Literature/evidence review of the environmental impact of organic farming
 - 2.5. Review of datasets and options for monitoring the environmental impact of organic farming
3. To contribute to other aspects of these and other projects if appropriate.

Generic Principal Duties

4. To assist senior staff with knowledge transfer for the projects they contribute to:
 - 4.1. To contribute to research output, for publication in scientific journals, conference proceedings and technical press, arising from the research programme.
 - 4.2. To present the programme and its findings at scientific conferences, farmer events and meetings and other appropriate events.
 - 4.3. To assist with the organisation of appropriate events to disseminate information from the programme.
 - 4.4. To prepare information for the ORC Bulletin and web site.
5. To ensure that effective routes of communications are established and maintained with the Team Leader and other members of their team.
6. To assist with team administration such as collating timesheets and other tasks as requested by their Line Manager, Team Leader, Director of Research and Innovation or Chief Executive.

7. To represent their project(s) and ORC at shows and conferences as required and assist in raising awareness of the activities outside of the Organic Research Centre.
8. To develop an awareness of relevant research in other institutes and develop own skills, knowledge and understanding.
9. To participate in the staff, research and other team meetings as requested by their Line Manager, Team Leader, Senior Programme Manager or Chief Executive.
10. Undertake training to be able to continue meeting the requirements of this role and develop your potential as a member of ORC staff.
11. Provide other information and support or undertake other activities as required by the Chief Executive, including responsibilities not listed above that may be allocated in the Annual Business Plan and/or agreed as part of annual appraisals.

REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATION

Attribute	Essential	Desirable	How identified/ assessed*
Qualifications			
BSc (at least 2.1) in Environmental-science related discipline	X		A
Relevant Postgraduate qualifications or equivalent experience		X	A
Experience			
Statistical methods and their application	X		A/I/P
Sustainability/environmental impact assessment	X		A/I/P
Evidence-based literature reviews	X		A/I/P
Designing and implementing research and experiments to test sustainability		X	A/I/P
Working with producers and other stakeholders	X		A/I/P
Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)		X	A/I/P
Experience of working on farms		X	A/I
Sheep and goat production systems in Europe		X	A/I
Organic farming and agroecology		X	A/I
Skills			
Intermediate to advanced skills in MS Excel	X		A/I/R
Intermediate to advanced statistical analysis	X		
Statistical analysis using R		X	A/I/P
Life Cycle Analysis using SIMAPRO		X	A/I/P
Good analytical skills including accuracy	X		A/I/P
Good organisational skills	X		A/I/R
Good communication skills both written and oral, in a variety of styles	X		A/I/R
Project management		X	A/I/R
Translation of research results into user-friendly outputs		X	A/I/R
GIS software		X	A/I/R
Personal qualities			
Self-motivated	X		A/I/R
Independent and able to work alone and as part of a team	X		A/I/R
Enthusiastic and flexible	X		A/I/R
Able to contribute to the wider activities undertaken by ORC	X		A/I/R
Interest in organic food and farming, food systems, agroecology and the environment		X	A/I
Additional attributes			
Willingness to undertake routine assessments	X		A/I
Willingness and ability to travel where and when needed in the UK and EU	X		A/I
Willingness to work additional hours at peak times.	X		A/I

*A = Application; I = Interview; P= Presentation; R = References