



Position: Research Chemist

Company:

Stony Creek Colors is the fastest growing manufacturer of natural indigo globally, serving fashion brands as well as an artisan community of dyers. We partner with leading denim mills and dyehouses to bring consistent and scalable natural colors into industrial use. Our dyes empower fashion brands like Patagonia, Wrangler and Lucky Brand with a trusted and transparent supply of biobased color. Our alternative crops like natural indigo improve profitability and ecosystem health for farmers, all while empowering designers, brands, and mills with greater transparency and traceability. Our customers are the world's leading fashion and personal care brands and their suppliers. These brands need reliable and renewable products with transparent supply chains as they transition to the bio-based economy. Our next generation products will fuel clean color innovation in verticals such as cosmetics, personal care, and food.

Job Description:

Stony Creek Colors manages all aspects of the natural indigo supply chain – from seed genetics, to crop production, to chemical extraction, to supporting industrial dyers and developing new applications. Stony Creek's Research Chemists lead the way in developing innovations in each of these aspects of natural indigo production and use, picking up where global research left off over 100 years ago. At Stony Creek Colors, the Research Chemist's role is to design, lead, and execute research experiments to support factory processes, field- or greenhouse-based agricultural research experiments, biobased product research and development, or scaling laboratory processes to the factory's pilot line. During the harvest season, this involves performing routine plant extractions and indigo product analysis with many roles shared across a small dedicated team. Expect to be active and hands-on in gathering and preparing samples, designing and constructing experiments, working with factory equipment, and dyeing and application development.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Perform routine laboratory plant extractions and analyses to support agricultural research activities, factory processes, and technology development
- Develop laboratory experiments as required to support and/or validate factory process operations
- Manage and direct research projects (e.g. new extraction method, new IP development, product piloting, equipment/process piloting, etc.)
- Apply for grant funding to support research projects
- Maintain detailed Laboratory Notebook, documenting experiments, procedures, outcomes, exceptions and other pertinent information
- Present research findings to R&D team on a weekly basis
- Maintain assigned laboratory equipment (calibration, maintenance, cleaning, etc.)

Qualifications

Basic Qualifications:

- Masters Degree in Chemistry or directly related field.
- Advanced understanding of basic chemistry laboratory and analysis equipment (e.g. UV-Vis spectrometer, fluorometer, etc.)
- Comfortable working in a dynamic environment
- Comfortable working outside of traditional wet lab chemistry tasks, including working with plant material, dyeing fabric samples, assisting in ag research experiments, etc.
- Ready to work in indoor and outdoor agricultural or processing environments (i.e. outside of the chemistry lab, in hot and cold outdoor conditions) when required
- Comfortable working in cross-functional teams that may include factory process engineers, agricultural researchers, customers, and outside collaborators
- Able to independently design and lead research projects with clear objectives and outcomes to support company goals and processes
- Able to track and report progress on multiple tasks, and follow each through to completion
- Able to prioritize competing tasks logically
- Detail-oriented; methodical in approach to troubleshooting and resolving issues
- Able to maintain a clean and safe working environment

Preferred Qualifications:

- Ph.D. in Chemistry with a focus in natural products chemistry, organic synthesis, color chemistry, biochemistry, food chemistry, or dyes and textiles
- Experience (professional or academic research) with enzymes, dyes, fragrances and flavors, pharma- or food-grade production facilities, and organic syntheses
- Expertise in plant extractions and purifications
- Expertise in analytical chemistry methods including fluorometry, HPLC, GC, etc.
- 4+ years applicable industry experience in a research, production or analysis environment
- Hands on experience with plants (e.g. farming, gardening, etc.)

Compensation:

SCC's Research Chemist position is a full-time, salaried position. Compensation commensurate with experience.

To Apply:

Please submit cover letter and résumé to jobs@stonycreekcolors.com with "Research Chemist" in the subject line. This is a full-time position to be filled as soon as possible and applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until position is filled. This job will be based at SCC's research and production facility in Springfield, TN.

SCC is a growing company with a policy of equal opportunity and non-discrimination in employment. We are committed to providing a safe and inclusive work environment, with opportunities for growth and professional development.