

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Laboratory Technician I

Updated January 4, 2018

Definition: Under supervision, sets and retrieves mosquito surveillance traps, performs general maintenance on surveillance equipment, laboratory premises, and District grounds, may perform inspections and control operations for assigned vectors, and does related work and supportive services as required.

Tasks include but are not limited to: The Laboratory Technician I (Lab Tech I) carry out assignments at the pleasure of the Manager or his designee(s). Work is performed in accordance with established methods and techniques. This individual is closely supervised and receives specific assignments accompanied by detailed oral or written instructions.

Lab Tech I may be assigned to aid in the trapping and collection of mosquitoes, by organizing and assisting trap placement and retrieval (utilizing approved methods).

Lab Tech I may collect specimens from various mosquito trap types throughout the District and is responsible for the cleaning, maintenance, and simple repairing of all traps.

Lab Tech I may collect animal carcasses affected by vector borne disease pathogens.

Lab Tech I may be assigned to aid in the identification of mosquito species.

Cleans, feeds and otherwise maintains fishery.

Cleans and maintains laboratory counters, shelves and extended areas of the Laboratory building when required.

Drives automotive equipment and may operate hand and power equipment; performs simple maintenance and repairs. May be assigned to assist in the maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds.

Lab Tech I performs physical labor such as carrying of trap equipment or clearing paths for placement of surveillance traps.

Attends training sessions, read agency manuals and otherwise keeps informed of policies and procedures, keeps supervisors informed of progress and problems, and requests consultation as required.

If applicable, maintains sentinel chicken flocks. Feeds flock and inspect water troughs to ensure chicken's health needs are met. Rakes and shovels chicken manure. Cleans and maintains chicken cages including removal of deceased chicken carcasses.

Knowledge and Skills (to be gained from training):

Has a basic knowledge of mosquito surveillance equipment, trapping mechanisms, vehicle operation, and safety standards.

Must be able to make field identification of assigned vectors and know their life cycles.

Must understand Material Safety Data Sheets and pesticide label information.

Must be able to work independently and responsibly organize and perform assigned activities in the field; possess the ability to make accurate observations and keep detailed records; ability to work cooperatively and effectively with other employees and the public; and to evaluate situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.

Must be able to do basic preventive vehicle and power equipment maintenance and repairs.

Must exhibit a working knowledge of field and administrative functions and operations, including maintenance of records, reports and procedures.

Minimum Qualifications:

High school graduate or GED and eighteen years of age. Completion of college-level entomology, zoology or related natural science course is preferable but not required.

Must be able to read and write capably and communicate with the general public. Ability to interpret a variety of instructions, whether furnished in writing, oral, diagram, or schedule form.

Must be able to perform moderate to heavy physical labor, frequently in temperatures above 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

Must be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide in all units of measure, using whole numbers, common fractions, and decimals. Ability to relate concepts such as rate, ratio, percentages, area, and volume to practical situations.

Must be able to work independently without direct supervision.

Must have a valid California driver's license with a good driving record and be insurable using the accepted guidelines of the insurance provider. DMV printout required.

Successful completion of pre-employment physical examination and drug screening.

Physical Requirements/Essential Functions

A portion of the work is performed in an indoor laboratory setting. However, this position includes substantial outdoor work in varying temperatures and within and around various types of aquatic habitats, including polluted water sources. Hazards may include insect bites, chemicals, fumes, dust, hazardous materials, venomous insects, vectors and vector-borne diseases, rough terrain, inclement weather conditions, vicious animals, and poisonous plants and animals. The following list of abilities and physical demands are required to perform job duties.

- Ability to be vaccinated for various diseases to which employee may be exposed in the course of duties. The following vaccinations may be required within one year of employment: Rabies, Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Yellow Fever.

- Ability to periodically perform repetitive motion associated with computer usage
- Ability to periodically traverse rough, sloping or uneven ground such as fields, dirt banks, stream beds, and shallow ponds
- Ability to swim.
- Ability to tolerate insect bites, bee stings etc.

<u>Physical Activity:</u>	<u>Physical Demands:</u>		
	<u>1/3</u>	<u>Amount of Time:</u>	
		<u>1/3-2/3</u>	<u>over 2/3</u>
Stand		X	
Walk		X	
Sit		X	
Use hands to finger, feel or handle			X
Reach with hands and arms			X
Climb or balance			X
Stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl			X
Talk or hear			X
Taste or smell			X

<u>Lifting or force exertion requirements:</u>	<u>Amount of Time:</u>		
	<u>1/3</u>	<u>1/3-2/3</u>	<u>over 2/3</u>
Up to 10 pounds			X
Up to 25 pounds		X	
Up to 50 pounds		X	
Up to 100 pounds	X		
Over 100 pounds	X		

Vision Requirements:

Close vision (clear vision at 20 inches or less):

Identification of species and stage of larval development.

Distance vision (clear vision at 20 feet or more):

Environmental evaluation, control of vector source and safety.

Peripheral vision (ability to observe an area that can be seen up and down or to the left and right while eyes are fixed on a given point):

Environmental evaluation, control of vector source and safety.

Depth perception (three-dimensional vision, ability to judge distances and spatial relationships):

Environmental evaluation, control of vector source and safety.

Work Environment:

	<u>1/3</u>	<u>Amount of Time:</u>	
		<u>1/3-2/3</u>	<u>over 2/3</u>
Wet or humid conditions	X		
Works near moving mechanical parts		X	
Works in outdoor weather conditions			X
Fumes of airborne particles	X		
Toxic or caustic chemicals		X	
Extreme heat		X	

The position typically experiences a moderate noise level consistent with an office with computers and printers, or light traffic. Occasionally the noise level is consistent with an automotive repair shop.