Insecticide and Nematicide Discovery Scientist
Mystic, CT

Enko discovers and develops sustainable solutions for farmers to protect their crops from pests and disease. Our proprietary discovery platform represents a revolutionary approach to rapidly discover novel, safe and economical solutions that are needed to ensure efficient food production. Led by a team of proven scientists, entrepreneurs and ag-industry veterans, Enko uses innovative science and agile design principles to rapidly develop field-ready crop protection solutions that overcome the rising resistance barriers traditional pesticides face.

Enko team members will be entitled to participate in Health, Dental, Vision, Life and Disability Insurance, 401(k) Plan and other similar fringe benefit plans.

The successful candidate will have demonstrated the ability to thrive in a dynamic, fast-paced, and innovative environment. Excellent written and oral communication skills are required, as is the desire and ability to excel in a multidisciplinary environment. As an early member of the R&D team, this person will have an opportunity to help establish a culture that nurtures scientific excellence, a sense of urgency to achieve project success, and success built on collaboration and personal accountability.

Major responsibilities include:

- Apply knowledge of market leading products and the attributes of highly effective insecticides and nematicides to define characterization strategies that support advancement of chemistries through the staging system.
- Lead the design and implementation of robust assays for characterization of candidate chemistries on model and agronomically important insect and nematode pests.
- Collaborate with a diverse team of scientists to identify and validate targets and optimize lead chemistries creating a pipeline of product candidates.
- Collaborate with external partners to conduct advanced characterization of candidate molecules.
- Collaborate as a member of the Biology Team to develop approaches for rapidly and reliably advancing candidate molecules through a tiered evaluation system.

The ideal candidate will have demonstrated an ability to apply their expertise in insecticide or nematicide discovery to advance small molecule discovery campaigns from screening to identification of development candidates. They will have a deep understanding of the discovery process and be able to translate this to the development of a tiered evaluation system for insecticides and nematicides.
Qualifications and Skills:

- Ph.D. in Entomology, Nematology or a related discipline.
- A minimum of 5 years of experience in the discovery of insecticides or nematicides including direct involvement the characterization of early-stage chemistries in the lab and greenhouse. A working knowledge of the characterization of crop protection chemistries in the field is desirable.
- Experience in utilizing data-driven decision making to advance chemistries in a staged, pipeline management system.
- Demonstration of scientific and team leadership.
- Excellent written and oral communication.
- Experience building teams and research infrastructure.
- Experience in establishing and managing external research collaborations.
- Understanding of the properties necessary in a small molecule insecticide and nematicide discovery and a working knowledge of organic chemistry necessary to contribute to a multidisciplinary team.
- Experience working in a multidisciplinary team environment.