



Job Title: Beta Bugs Engineer (Phenotype Developer)

Location: RoCRE, Harpenden then Easter Bush Campus, Edinburgh

Starting Date: Within October 2018

About Beta Bugs.

We're creating high performance insect breeds for the rapidly growing "insects as protein" sector. We do so by combining biotech and breeding approaches from both plant and livestock sectors. Our first target is enhanced breeds of Black Soldier Fly for the "insects as feed" market, but beyond that we'll be creating breeds of multiple species for the wider bioeconomy - the bug has many legs!

We're currently running our first Innovate UK grant, have been awarded funding in the form of an Entrepreneurial Fellowship from the Royal Society of Edinburgh and have just relocated our colony into a new 20ft environmentally controlled container.

Is this You?

You've got a strong background in engineering/computer science.

You're creative and enjoy coming up with and implementing solutions to problems that are non-textbook (maggots are far from ideal objects).

You're a maker/hacker and can build quick solutions, but will refine them over time.

You've got practical experience in developing and implementing sensor-based systems for data collection and analysis, and/or computer vision approaches for image recognition and analysis.

You're excited by the thought of working at the bleeding edge of a new industry! (we are!)

What You will be Doing

You'll be building out a phenotyping platform, responsible for characterizing different breeds of Black Soldier Fly that we create and source. We've started developing infrastructure for part of this platform, but what you'll build will be at the heart of Beta Bugs' operations and a gamechanger for this industry.

You'll take the lead on platform development, data collection and analysis - both by yourself and with the assistance of an advisory board comprised of industry and academic experts that we can build around you. You'd also be responsible for colony growth and maintenance on a day-to-day basis, with help from the other team members. Beta Bugs is set for high growth - so you can expect the role to develop alongside it as well.



Other notes

If you've had experience of implementing solutions in animal or plant breeding, or the wider agricultural industries then do get in touch.

We're currently based just outside of London at Rothamsted Centre for Research & Enterprise, but we would be re-locating to the Easter Bush Campus, just outside of Edinburgh, in 2019. As such you'd be game for moving up with us - it may be easier if you're already based in Scotland and join us in the South for a bit.

Salary is initially £18-20k for the right candidate with equity/options in the company also available. Although the role is full-time we're happy to discuss other arrangements as well.

To apply, please send a CV and covering letter to thomas@betabugs.uk. If you're keen but can't start in October (long notice periods etc) then do let me know and we'll see what we can do.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thomas Farrugia