Manager/Sr. Manager, Fermentation

The Company:
Vestaron is The Peptide Company dedicated to improving the safety, efficacy and sustainability of crop protection through migration from chemical pesticides to biological peptides.

Initially, Vestaron is focused on a class of peptides that kills insect pests efficiently, but is safe for humans, birds, fish, pollinators and the environment. As part of this, the company has developed a proprietary platform for peptide optimization and fermentation-based peptide production that will allow development of a wide variety of biologic crop protection solutions.

Vestaron is proud to bring you the Power of Peptides through the SPEAR® brand family - providing new technology with a unique mode of action in a biological solution equal to, and often better, than the synthetic options; creating the opportunity to incorporate a new IRAC Group 32 into rotation recommendations for resistance management.

More information at www.vestaron.com

The Opportunity:

Vestaron is currently recruiting a Manager/Sr. Manager, Fermentation to join our team in Research Triangle Park, NC, reporting to the Head of Operations. Manager/Sr. Manager, Fermentation will develop, implement, and optimize yeast fermentation processes to achieve high titers of peptide, low cost, and efficient downstream processing. Primarily responsible for the running of fermenters at CMOs and supporting the scale up of new peptides. Supports regulatory affairs with submissions relevant to the Vestaron proprietary product line. Role will interface with R&D, downstream processing, product development, regulatory, and quality.

To be successful in this role, you must provide leadership, expert advice, sound judgment, and appropriate actions in managing the process of manufacturing Vestaron products. Ensure that performance of the fermentation process is such that objectives set forth in strategic and operating plans are met with emphasis on effective resource use and maximizing corporate value.

Responsibilities:

- Help develop and implement novel upstream processes to improve productivity, titer, yield and purity.
- Conduct transfer of fermentation processes to commercial scale and support commercial scale production.
- Interface with bench fermentation research team to support commercially scalable process definition and development.
- Supervise and coordinate fermentation process testing at CMO facilities.
• Perform data analysis to develop understanding of fermentation process for improvement and optimization purposes.
• Collaborate and communicate effectively with internal teams and external tech partners.
• Develop processes in compliance with appropriate AgTech GMPs and applicable safety standards.
• Builds and maintains positive relationships with colleagues, consultants, and key stakeholders to ensure projects run smoothly and to resolve concerns promptly and efficiently.
• Maintains familiarity with current techniques and developments to sustain and improve technical skills.
• Ability to innovate in both the technology development and operations areas.
• Other duties as assigned.

Requirements:

• M.S. in Chemical engineering or related field with 5 years of experience, or B.S. with 10 years of experience or Associates with 15 years of experience.
• Technical knowledge in development, implementation, and optimization of fermentation processes preferred.
• Understanding of downstream processing unit operations as related to fermentation. Previous experience with downstream processing preferred but not a requirement.
• Experience with design of experiment, statistical analysis, and modeling preferred.
• Self-starter with strong organizational, and general communication skills.
• Comfortable working within a small, collaborative team, passionate about changing the biopesticide space.
• Able and willing to travel as necessary (domestic and international).

Why Join Us?

Join the Revolution...

With an innovative and accomplished leadership team guiding our day-to-day wins, and a Board with a long-term vision that supports our efforts, we set out daily to improve the safety, efficacy and sustainability of crop protection through migration from synthetic pesticides to peptide-based biopesticides. Our team is empowered to solve problems and find solutions that will advance the science and commercialization of peptides. If you’re seeking a career that taps into your talents and contributes to harnessing the Power of Peptides® for the benefit of the environment and industry, we just may have a job for you.

We know our employees are our most valuable asset, and our culture conveys that.
In 2019 we opened our headquarter in the heart of RTP (Research Triangle Park, NC), a global center of Agricultural Technology and Innovation. Our offices are located in the Frontier complex, a vibrant work environment where the development of restaurants, shops and hotels is underway.

Our R&D center is in Kalamazoo, MI, within the Western Michigan University Innovation Center. The 69,000-square-foot, purpose-built incubator and co-working space was created to support companies from the earliest start-ups to maturing organizations with office and conference space, high-quality shared scientific equipment and resources, and a wide range of support services.

We offer a competitive benefits package, to support the health and happiness of our staff.

We invite you to apply to join a company developing the products, processes and relationships to lead the advancement of the biological peptide industry, beginning with the pesticide markets.

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*
Vestaron is an Equal Opportunity Employer and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any kind. All employment decisions at Vestaron are based on business needs, job requirements and individual qualifications, without regard to race, color, religion or belief, national, social or ethnic origin, sex (including pregnancy), age, physical, mental or sensory disability, HIV status, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, marital, civil union or domestic partnership status, past or present military service, family medical history or genetic information, family or parental status, or any other status protected by the laws or regulations in the locations where we operate.