

Senior Microbiologist Position in Branford, CT

Job Type: Full-time, **Work Environment:** Research Laboratory and shared workspace. 0-5% Travel.

Who Is Ancera?

Ancera is a pioneer in the development and commercialization of Microbial Security products. Ancera's flagship PIPER™ platform is the fastest microbial quantification and characterization solution across the food, agriculture, and livestock supply chains.

Powered by patented MagDrive™ technology, PIPER™ generates pathogen and microbiome data in hours instead of weeks. The PIPER™ analytics engine aggregates microbial data in an operational context. This enables verifiable chain of custody and microbial risk assessment at each point in the supply chain.

Ancera is currently looking for experienced Microbiologists to help lead the development of new products for the PIPER™ platform and run a fast paced microbiology lab. Prior experience working with food pathogens common in the poultry processing industry is required.

In your tenure at Ancera, you will:

Complete the following goals:

- Develop, validate, and commercialize antibody and nucleic acid probe based pathogen detection and capture products for targets such as *Salmonella*, *Listeria*, and others.
- Participate and present extensive research in co-development meetings with industry leading collaborators focused on animal health, preventive medicine, food safety, and food security.
- Collaborate internally with scientists and engineers on product development and improvement project.

How will you achieve above mentioned goals?

- Independently design, execute, and report on experiments.
- Characterize biological reagents such as antibodies and cell labeling systems to support development and commercialization activities (including shelf life and stability studies).
- Prepare and produce validations that meet AOAC/AFNOR/ISO requirements for food and animal health testing.
- Incorporate descriptive statistical analysis with concise presentations on experimental results to internal and/or external peer review groups (from marketing, sales, customers, and technical groups).
- Collaborate with external customers and team-members on pilot projects.

Who Are You?

Personality traits

- Passionate about working on challenging disruptive technologies.
- Self-starter who can work independently and within a team.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work well with personnel at all levels.
- Confident asking questions as well as exchanging feedback with other team members.

- Ambition driven with critical thinking skills.
- Considerable problem solving and decision-making skills.
- Highly organized with the ability to prioritize and advance competing priorities.
- Perform well under fast paced and challenging product and market requirements.
- Ability to handle multiple projects at the same time.
- Able to contribute technically to projects outside of their responsibility.
- Willingness and ability to mentor junior employees.
- Polite, persistent and patient.

Technical Skills

- Strong technical and scientific background in current food pathogen test methods or equivalent work.
- Highly skilled at standard microbiology, molecular biology, and/or immunoassay techniques.
- Demonstrated ability to troubleshoot, optimize, and validate experiments without supervision.
- Experience maintaining a diverse library of microbial organisms (e.g. bacteria, parasites).
- Experience running antibody-based and molecular biological assays.
- Experience developing reagents and product specifications.
- Commitment to laboratory safety and compliance with all associated rules, regulations, and guidelines
- Training and experience handling pathogenic bacteria in a biosafety level 2 (BSL-2) environment or above is required.
- Effectively communicate issues and results that impact timelines, accuracy, and reliability of laboratory data to senior management.
- Experience with classical microbiology, pathogen detection, and/or food safety is preferred.
- Ability to work as a member of an interdisciplinary developmental team is essential.
- Some experience working with microfluidic systems is preferred.

Education/Experience:

Required:

- PhD in Microbiology, Poultry Science, or related field, and/or a DVM degree *OR* equivalent experience is required.
- Minimum of four (4) years lab-experience in the poultry processing or food pathogen and microbial analysis fields.

Preferred:

- Prior experience with successful product launches and assay development.
- Prior experience with microfluidic systems