



About Fera

[Fera Science Ltd](#) is part of Capita plc, the UK's leading provider of business process management and integrated professional support service solutions, across the UK, Europe, South Africa and India.

Fera Science Ltd specialises in translating scientific knowledge into practical applications, such as helping to ensure food safety and quality 'from farm to fork', sustainable crop production, environmental management and conservation. It also plays a key role in the UK's ability to respond to, and recover from, emergency situations affecting the food chain and rural economy. Our overarching purpose is to support and develop a sustainable food chain, a healthy natural environment, and to protect the global community from biological and chemical risks.

Based on the state of art National Agri-Food Innovation Campus near York, we are looking for a year in industry student, starting in July 2018, who is undertaking a Maths degree to support our Plant Pathology team. The team specialise in strategic research into the biology and control of diseases of agricultural, horticultural and tree health importance, to support sustainable crop production and protection of the environment from disease threats and a key theme of the team's work is disease surveillance and risk forecasting.

Post details

Job title: Year in Industry (Plant Pathology Team)

Salary: £18,000pa

Closing date: Thursday 29th March 2018

Status: 40-52 weeks Fixed Term Appointment **Location:** Sand Hutton, York

Description of Role

- Provide an undergraduate interested in a career in applied mathematics and statistics the opportunity to come into an established research team to help with the day to day running of the business from a plant pathology perspective and gain industry experience of what it is like to work in an applied mathematics and statistics function.
- The project is anticipated to be closely linked to Fera's work in establishing the Resistance and Virulence Management Unit of the Centre for Crop Health and Protection (CHAP). One of the aims of the unit is to provide coherent information regarding the national fungicide resistance levels currently experienced and to try and use this information to better inform fungicide resistance management strategies.
- Training will be provided to ensure all tasks can be completed but the experience listed below would benefit the successful applicant. Tasks will include:
 - Experience with programming in R & SQL
 - Experience in database management
 - A basic understanding of GIS
 - Knowledge of the biology of plant pests or pathogens
 - Knowledge of horticultural/agricultural practices
 - A basic knowledge of statistical methods
 - Experience of writing high quality scientific reports and papers

Required skills

- Experience with ordinary differential equations
- Experience in curve fitting
- Basic programming skills
- Experience in data management
- Good communication skills
- A structured, accurate and logical approach to identifying, piecing together and interpreting relevant information from a wide-range of sources
- Practical IT experience in particular Word, Excel and PowerPoint

Benefits for Student

- Industry experience of working as part of an applied research team.
- Exposure and training on a range of mathematics and statistics techniques.
- Greater understanding of the importance of the mathematics and statistics within other science areas, such as plant pathology.
- Experience of working as part of a larger team with common goals and objectives. Interactions with key stakeholders of the business.

Benefits of working for Fera



Situated just outside of the beautiful city of York, Fera staff enjoy a purpose-built facility with state of the art facilities, a 41-place nursery, onsite gym, staff restaurant and parking.

The site is just 7 miles from the historic city centre with its excellent transport links and varied attractions, and within easy commuting distance of the many thriving Yorkshire towns and villages that are situated around the city.

How to Apply:

Apply by email to Paul Lansell (Paul.lansell@fera.co.uk) or Femke van den Berg (Femke.vandenberg@fera.co.uk), providing your current CV with a covering letter describing your interest in this placement.

Competency based interviews will be held at Fera within 6 weeks of the closing date.

Capita operates as an equal opportunities employer and we welcome all applications regardless of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, pregnancy, race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality, religion or beliefs, disability, age, political opinions or trade union membership.

Competency Profile

The Capita Competency Framework outlines eight competencies. Below are competencies and some behaviours and skills of particular importance to the role.

Student Placement, Competency Profile	
Customer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes personal pride in providing quality service to customers (either internal or external) to achieve targets.• Follows all business processes, policies and systems to deliver agreed customer service levels.
Results Focused	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports any issues that may impact on progress and performance to their team leader.• Carries out their work effectively so individual and team targets are met.• Is flexible, coping well with unpredicted changes to get the job done.
Commercial Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thinks through costs and benefits of actions before taking them.• Relays information upwards that may impact the business.
Performance Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes ownership and responsibility for their personal performance targets.• Takes ownership of their personal development.• Reflects on own performance and learns from their mistakes, seeing these as an opportunity to improve performance in the future.
Team Working	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is aware how their own performance impacts on the performance of the team.• Makes a positive contribution to the team and the business as a whole.• Builds rapport quickly with colleagues, so contributing to a positive team spirit.