Research Assistant (Quality Assurance Researcher)

The Research and Development (R&D) role involves investigative activities to develop new products, procedures, and technologies to reshape the future of agricultural practices. It also involves research activities to continually improve existing products by identifying improved cultivation procedures. Research activities cover developing growing techniques, technology and gathering market insights to ensure the Sustenir Ecosystem stays relevant in the short, medium, and long-term. This involves leading technology changes that impacts the whole network of Sustenir Farms, and the global industry.

Job Description:
The R&D Specialist (Quality Assurance Researcher) will be responsible for assisting the R&D Department in ensuring proper transfer and execution of skills when operationalising new or improved cultivation methods. The Quality Assurance Researcher will also be responsible for issues raised and identified by operations.

The role requires but is not limited to:
- Understanding new crop cultivation instructions, communicating, and executing them in its entirety to and with the operations department.
- Identify problems and propose solutions associated with plant health at the farm promptly — during scaling up or daily operations — before impacts on yield and output.
- Planning, conducting, documenting, and following up of experiments proposed by the R&D department to resolve new research questions identified during daily and scaling up of operations.
- Presenting findings for an audience within the department or wider group.
- Identify plant disease and disorders before detailed documentation.
- Update and compose documents/libraries to keep operation staff abreast of procedures when dealing and handing plant disease and disorders.
- Collaborate closely with Operation Managers, Quality Check Managers and Farm Operators.
- Identify and follow up opportunities for learning and development to ensure skill set meets evolving requirements and stay at the forefront of relevant scientific and technology areas.

Key skills required:
- Good understanding of plant health and their interactions with the environment.
- Research skills with critical and analytical attitude.
- Good communication skills and able to work well in a fast-paced environment.
- Detail oriented.
- Project management.
- Ability to analyse and communicate quantitative insights in a precise actionable manner.

Relevant experience:
- Minimum BS — any science-based field (but those with relevant fields will be preferred).
  - Crop Science, Agriculture, Biotechnology etc.
- Minimum 2–3 years working experience preferred but not mandatory.
- Experience in operations is beneficial.
- A good attitude — willing to learn, do necessary leg work within and sometimes with other departments and agencies.