



# JOB of the Week



**Job name: Botanist**

**Job description:** Botanists are plant biologists who can work in a wide variety of settings. Some botanists work for colleges and universities as teachers or researchers. Others may find work in botanical gardens, zoos, arboretums, greenhouses, herbariums, medical laboratories, pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology firms, or government agencies.

**Tasks you will undertake in the job:** Your tasks will vary depending on which type of botany you choose to study and specialise in; tasks could include:

- identifying, classifying, recording and monitoring plant species and biodiversity
- ecological consultancy work, including surveys and environmental impact assessments
- managing a botanical collection
- searching for new species
- studying the effects of pollution on plant life
- identifying and purifying chemicals produced by plants for use in products like drugs, food, fabrics, solvents and building materials
- presenting research results in journals, books and at academic conferences
- training and supervising junior staff and volunteers
- teaching at a university

## Qualifications you will need for this job:

You'll usually need a degree in a subject like: Botany; Ecology; Environmental Science; Plant Biology; Plant Science

You'll also need a postgraduate qualification, like a master's degree or PhD, for teaching or research posts. Entry requirements needed for this level of study include: 2 or 3 A levels, or equivalent, including Biology for a degree or a degree in a relevant subject for postgraduate study

It may be helpful if you volunteer with a relevant organisation, like the **Royal Horticultural Society** and the **Field Studies Council**, before you apply for your first job.

## Skills required for this job (core competencies):

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

## Sectors in which Botanists would normally work:

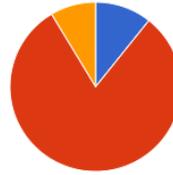
Botanists work in a range of different areas studying plant life. They can find work in botanical gardens, zoos, arboretums, greenhouses, herbariums, medical laboratories, pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology firms, or government agencies. Some botanists work inside in offices or laboratories.

Others work in the field, studying plants in their natural habitats.

Many botanists do both lab and field work.



## Type of work (full time / part time):



● Self Emp.: 10.7%  
● Full time: 80.7%  
● Part time: 8.6%



**Salary:** £22,000 average salary (starter) to £55,000 (substantial experience) - The UK average salary is £28,758

LMI For All



**Working hours:** 38 - 40 average working hours in the week (37.5 working hours in the average working week) – evenings; weekends and bank holidays (away from home)

**Workforce in the UK:** 49% male / 51% female workforce

## Useful information:

<https://inhabitat.com/infographic-edible-medicinal-or-just-bizarre-here-are-50-amazing-facts-about-plants/50-amazing-plant-facts/>

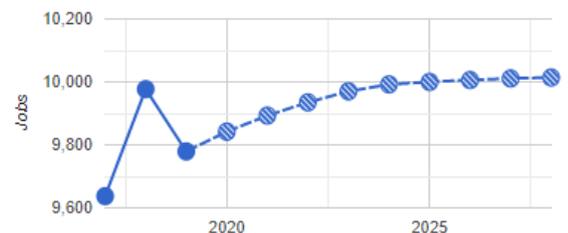
<https://www.bioscience.com.pk/topics/botany/item/688-interesting-facts-on-botany>



## This job in the future:

The workforce is projected to grow by 5.9% over the period to 2027, creating another 6,300 jobs.

In the same period, 40.3% of the workforce is likely to retire, creating 42,600 job opportunities.



[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com)

[www.successatschool.org](http://www.successatschool.org)

[www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)

[www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors)

[www.ucas.com/careers-advice](http://www.ucas.com/careers-advice)

[www.kudos/cascaid.co.uk/#/](http://www.kudos/cascaid.co.uk/#/) (you all have a log on for this service)

[www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk) (careers videos)

<https://www.planitplus.net/JobProfiles/View/849/101>

Helpful sites for careers information  
GAT careers links

<http://airhead.io/public/launchpads/XqbuOMJgb0OfqvMPCykzA>



