A handful of scientists have found the perfect lab assistant — a robot.

USA Today reports of two teams of scientists who employ robots to conduct repetitive experiments in the areas of physics and biology.

Biologist Ross King of Britain's Aberystwyth University uses a robot known as Adam, which has experimented with yeast genes and can start more than 1,000 biology experiments per day. Adam may next be used to study the genetics of roundworms, the newspaper reports.

Cornell University scientists have used a robot to study the physics of pendulums and springs. Scientist Hod Lipson said: "A lot of science today, especially cosmology and genomics, is generating massive amounts of data that scientists have to wade through. We need a way like this one to make it easier."

Writing in the journal Science, David Waltz of Columbia and Bruce Buchanan of the University of Pittsburgh said that robot scientists could "increase the rate of scientific progress dramatically, and in the process, revolutionize the practice of science."

The automated assistants perform the necessary repetitive tasks, allowing scientists more time to do what they do best — think.