



AfricaRice

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT RESEARCH ASSISTANT – MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

REF: GSS/02/RD/JANUARY/2012

The Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice) is looking for a highly qualified individual to fill the position of Research Assistant within its Genetic Diversity and Improvement program. The position will be based at AfricaRice's research station in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Background

The Research Assistant Molecular Biology is part of a multi-disciplinary research team working to sustain and improve the productivity of rice-based systems in Africa in line with AfricaRice's mission and mandate. He/she will attend to all activities related to Molecular Biology at AfricaRice and is responsible and reports to the Molecular Biologist, working in the Genetic Diversity and Improvement Program.

About AfricaRice:

The Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice) is an association of 24 African member states and one of the 15 international Centers supported by the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers ([CGIAR](#)). The Center's mission is to contribute to poverty alleviation and food security in Africa, through research, development and partnership activities aimed at increasing the productivity and profitability of the rice sector in ways that ensure the sustainability of the farming environment.

Position: Research Assistant - Molecular Biology

Salary Grade: GSS

Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will provide scientific, administrative and program support to the Molecular Biologist. He will be responsible for:

- Implementing molecular research activities (Molecular characterization, Genetic diversity studies, QTL mapping, Gene expression studies, MAS...);
- Implementing phenotypic evaluation of the materials with regards to particular traits of interest;
- Review and evaluate effectiveness of experimental methods and develop new methods that better meet research programs objectives;
- Monitoring and backstopping of projects and research activities in different countries;

- Data management, data analysis and reporting;
- Supervising technicians and temporary staff and backstopping of students and visiting scientists;
- Purchasing equipment and supplies based on budget allocation, condition of existing equipment and scheduled research activities;
- Providing substantive support in the preparation, edition and proofreading of reports, research papers and proposals;
- Undertaking any other duties as required by the Center.

Requirements:

The successful candidate should have:

- A MSc degree (or equivalent) in Molecular Biology, Genetics or Plant Breeding
- At least 2 years post-MSc experience in a similar position;
- Proven computer literacy and proficiency in using statistical software commonly used in agricultural research (SAS, GENSTAT, Sigma-Plot...)
- Knowledge of genetic software (NTSYS, PowerMarker, JointMap...) and databases (Gramene, Genbank...)
- Capacity to conduct independent work and produce reliable results;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills (both oral and written) and
- Good organization and management skills.

Knowledge of rice crop and rice production systems in Africa will be a plus.

Terms and Conditions:

- This is a regionally-recruited position and the appointment is for two years with possibility for renewal.
- AfricaRice provides an attractive salary and benefits package and a collegial and gender-sensitive working environment

Application procedure:

Candidates should send by an application including a cover letter and a **detailed CV** with the following information: Name, surname, gender, date of birth, family status, nationality, diplomas obtained, professional experience, language skills (French/English), the names and addresses (including telephone / fax / email) of three referees.

To apply online for this position, please click on the following web link:

<http://ict.africarice.org/apply/positions/GSS02RD201201/>

Applications will be considered up to **02 March 2012**.

AfricaRice believes that staff diversity promotes excellence in its operations, and encourages applications from women and developing country professionals.

AfricaRice thanks all applicants but only the short listed candidates will be contacted.

To learn more about AfricaRice, please visit our website at

www.AfricaRice.org