



Using advanced genomics to help feed the world's poor

Post-doctoral Molecular Biologists required for the Applied Genomics Laboratory, ICRISAT

ICRISAT wishes to recruit *Three Post-doctoral Molecular Biologists* as part of a major expansion in the institute's commitment to the use of applied genomics for assisting crop improvement. These positions will be based at Patancheru, Andhra Pradesh, India where a new high throughput genomics facility is being developed based on state-of-the-art robotics and automated technologies for fragment analysis and sequencing supported by bioinformatics and biometrics groups.

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is one of the 16 nonprofit, autonomous, scientific research and training institutes receiving support from donors through the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). ICRISAT is active in the molecular breeding of sorghum, pearl millet, groundnut, chickpea and pigeonpea with allied research programs in genetic resources and enhancement, natural resource management and socio-economics to alleviate rural poverty in the semi-arid tropics which is home to one-sixth of the world's population.

General requirements: PhD in Molecular Biology (within the past 5 years preferred) having worked in plant, animal, fungal or bacterial systems. Experience in molecular breeding and/or automated high throughput genomics systems would be an advantage but is not essential as full training opportunities will be available. Preference will be given to candidates with broad experience and understanding of modern molecular biology techniques who can contribute to the overall development of the lab's environment and capacity. Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment within a multidisciplinary team is important. Fluency in spoken and written English is essential. Appointees will report to the Head of Applied Genomics Lab., each working within different but interlinked teams as listed below, together with specific requirements for applicants to that area.

Marker Development and Mapping

Developing SSR, EST, SNP markers and integrated screening systems for high throughput mapping and molecular breeding. Experience in cloning and sequencing preferred. Demonstrated ability to innovate, particularly in protocol development, would be advantageous.

Marker-assisted Selection Systems

Generating, testing and applying powerful and robust marker assisted selection systems for important agronomic traits which are difficult to effectively and efficiently score through traditional breeding approaches, including resistance to certain fungal, bacterial and viral pathogens and abiotic stresses such as drought. Experience in QTL mapping would be advantageous.

Marker-accelerated Introgression Programs

Using molecular markers to improve the precision and speed of introgressing important agronomic traits from exotic germplasm and using wild germplasm to widen the genetic base of crop breeding pools. Experience in molecular diversity analysis would be advantageous.

ICRISAT is an equal opportunity employer, strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality, and is supportive of dual career couples. ICRISAT Headquarters is located at Patancheru near Hyderabad, India with regional centers and research teams in Asia and Africa. The appointment is for two years with an annual tax free stipend of \$30,000 to \$36,000 together with relocation allowance and housing allowance. For further details concerning these positions, please contact J.H.Crouch@cgiar.org Further information about the work of the Applied Genomics Lab., ICRISAT and the CGIAR can be obtained via the internet at <http://www.grep.genomics> or <http://www.cgiar.org/icrisat> or <http://www.cgiar.org>

Please send applications with a covering letter and curriculum vitae, including contact information of three references to N.P. Rajasekharan, Director, Human Resources, ICRISAT, Patancheru, Andhra Pradesh 502 324, India (tel. +91-040-3296161; fax +91-040-241239 or +91-8455-40348), email: N.Rajasekh@cgiar.org Applications will be reviewed from 15th January 2001 until suitable candidates are identified.