



Entomologist (Ref No: DDG-R4D/AS/E/03/18)

Background: The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) invites applications for the internationally recruited position of **Entomologist**.

IITA is one of the world's leading research partners in finding solutions for hunger, malnutrition, and poverty. Its award-winning research-for-development (R4D) approach addresses the development needs of tropical countries. IITA works with partners to enhance crop quality and productivity, reduce producer and consumer risks, and generate wealth from agriculture. IITA is a non-profit organization founded in 1967 in Nigeria and governed by a Board of Trustees. IITA works on the following crops: cowpea, soybean, banana/plantain, yam, cassava, and maize. It is a member of CGIAR, a global agriculture research partnership for a food secure future. Please visit <http://www.iita.org/> for more information on IITA.

Position Responsibilities:

The tasks are as follows:

- Develop and implement scientific activities to assess crop resistance to various diseases with focus on IITA mandate crops like banana, plantain, and cassava.
- Develop and implement integrated pest management strategies including understanding of insect ecology.
- Contribute to the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for screening germplasm against pests and insect-transmitted diseases across IITA.
- Establish collaborative work within and beyond IITA community of breeders and plant health specialists to screen for resistance against pests and insect-transmitted diseases such as weevils, aphids, bunchy top virus, cassava mosaic disease, cassava brown streak disease, cassava green mites and white flies.
- Establish and maintain good working relationships with stakeholders within and beyond Cameroon, who have similar research for development interests, including capacity building when applicable.
- Oversee activities in the entomopathology and molecular genetics laboratories at IITA-Cameroon, work collaboratively with relevant IITA teams and provide expertise to similar IITA laboratories across sub-Saharan Africa, and identify investment needs to maintain state-of-the-art laboratories
- Publish and contribute to the publication of scientific manuscripts using his/her own data as well as data generated by students and/or partners and comply with the open access policy of IITA and the CG system.
- Supervise postgraduate students.
- Supervise the Tissue culture (TC) laboratory.
- Participate in relevant meetings including, but not limited to, IITA scientific-team project or program meetings and P4D/R4D weeks.
- Organize and/or participate in relevant meetings, workshops, and conferences.
- Be an advocate to broaden project donor base, including linkages with relevant CRPs.
- Generate timely technical and financial reports of projects under his/her leadership
- Manage financial resources and participate actively in resource mobilization related to integrated pest and disease management and regional support for Cameroon.

Educational Qualifications

The candidate should have a PhD degree in entomology or related fields in agriculture and at least three years of post-doctoral experience in relevant field.

Core Competencies:

- Applied knowledge and experience in entomology, insect ecology, and integrated pest management in various cropping systems, including relevant scientific publications in Thompson journals with impact factor.
- Proven analytical, quantitative and qualitative research skills.
- Experience in managing entomopathology and/or molecular genetics laboratories.
- Experience in implementing, monitoring and reporting of research for development projects.
- Experience in proposal development including successful records of resource mobilization.
- Experience of supervising junior research team (research assistants, MSc-students, co-supervise PhD researchers).
- Experience of managing financial resources.
- Experience of establishing and maintaining partnerships with various stakeholders.
- Experience of facilitating and organizing workshops including various stakeholders.
- Experience of preparing and making powerful scientific communications.
- Ability to work independently and in a team; pro-active attitude; good judgement, effective communication skills.
- Innovative and independent problem solver, and excellent team player.
- Ability to interact with a multi-cultural and interdisciplinary team of scientists and development partners in layman language.
- Ability to deal with high workload and to work under pressure.
- Ability to work under challenging (field) conditions.
- Affinity with modeling in the field of entomology would be an asset.

Duty station: Yaounde, Cameroon

General information: The contract will be for an initial period of three years. IITA offers internationally competitive remuneration package paid in U.S. Dollars.

Applications: Applications must include covering letter which should address how the candidate's background/experience relates to the specific duties of the position applied for, curriculum vitae, names and addresses of three professional referees (which **must** include either the Head of the applicant's current or previous organization or applicant's direct Supervisor/Superior at his/her present or former place of work). The application should be addressed to the Head, Human Resources Service. Please complete our online application form using this link: <http://www.iita.org/careers>

Closing Date: 25th March 2018

IITA is an equal opportunity employer and particularly welcomes applications from women candidates

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.