



International Potato Center POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Ref.: 14-51 QG/IRS/HQ

Quantitative Geneticist

The International Potato Center (CIP) is seeking a postdoctoral scientist to design, execute, and interpret field-based research for QTL/association mapping, molecular assisted and genomic selection of complex quantitative traits for sweetpotato in close collaboration with global and regional breeding teams at CIP and external collaborators.

The Center: CIP is a not-for-profit international agricultural research-for-development organization with a focus on potato, sweet potato, and Andean roots and tubers. Its vision is of roots and tubers improving the lives of the poor. CIP is dedicated to achieving food security, improved well-being, and gender equity for poor people in root and tuber farming and food systems of the developing world. CIP works with partners to contribute high quality science, technology, and capacity strengthening for sustainable science-based solutions. CIP is headquartered in Lima, Peru, with staff and activities in over 30 locations across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. CIP is a member of CGIAR, a network of 15 research centers mostly located in the developing world and supported by more than 50 donor members.

Project: The research position is for three years to support development of quantitative genetic methods to identify marker-trait associations, optimization and implementation of genomic selection for population development for polyploid sweetpotato with global and regional breeding teams at CIP and external collaborators.

The Position: This position will be based in Lima, Peru within the adaptation and abiotic stress genetics group of CIP Genetics and Crop Improvement Program and will work in close collaboration with sweetpotato breeders. The primary goal of this position is to dissect the genetic basis of complex quantitative traits of agronomic importance in sweetpotato and contribute to the development of breeding tools and strategies.

Duties and responsibilities

- Design and execute research for QTL/association mapping, molecular assisted and genomic selection for sweetpotato in close collaboration with CIP's global and regional breeding teams and external collaborators
- Support at International Consortium to develop quantitative genetic methods to identify marker-trait associations, optimization and implementation of genomic selection for population development for polyploid sweetpotato
- Coordinate and conduct multi-environmental research experiments for QTL identification through QTL and association mapping approaches
- Conduct data analysis and interpretation of QTL mapping, association mapping and genomic selection in polyploid crops and high-throughput sequence based markers such as RAD or GBS
- Publish results in peer-reviewed journals and present findings in international conferences and project reports
- Contribute to building capacity of national and international researchers in current approaches to genetics and marker-assisted selection in breeding programs

Selection criteria:

- PhD degree in quantitative genetics, plant breeding, statistical genetics or related fields with significant experience in field based applied breeding.
- Demonstrated experience in conducting multi-environmental field trials, use of high throughput phenotyping, genotypic and environmental data to dissect genetic basis of complex traits and to identify marker-trait associations and to interpret the extent of G x E.
- Experience in bioinformatics and method development in quantitative genetics is required.
- Good understanding of quantitative genetic methods and genomic selection for complex traits, preferably for polyploids.
- Demonstrated ability with R, SAS and other relevant quantitative genetics and bioinformatics tools to handle large phenotypic and genotypic datasets.
- Interest and ability to work in a multidisciplinary environment, and collaborate with research teams from developing countries.
- Excellent interpersonal relationships skills and teamwork orientation.
- Excellent written and spoken English with working knowledge of Spanish is an advantage.

Conditions: Employment contract will be for an initial three-year term (with a three month probation period) with possibility of renewal. Salary will be internationally competitive, paid in US dollars, and commensurate with experience. This position will depend on funds availability. CIP prides itself on its collegial and supportive working environment, which allows space for personal and professional growth.

Applications: Applicants should apply by email, sending a letter of motivation, a full C.V., and the names and contact information of three references that are knowledgeable of the candidate's professional qualifications and work experience to: CIP-Recruitment@cgiar.org. The reference name of the position should be clearly marked in the subject line of the email message. Screening of applications will begin on **October 09, 2014** and will continue until the post is filled. All applications will be acknowledged, however only short listed candidates will be contacted.

Learn more about CIP by accessing our web site at <http://www.cipotato.org>

CIP is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women and professionals from developing countries are particularly encouraged to apply