

National Tropical Botanical Garden

Breadfruit Institute

Job Description

Title: Senior Scientist

Prepared by: Diane Ragone, PhD

Reports to: Director of the Breadfruit Institute

FLSA: Salaried/ Exempt

Department: Breadfruit Institute

Date: 12/11/2019

Location: Headquarters

Compensation: DOE

Overview/Summary

The Breadfruit Institute is a program of the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) on the islands of Kauai and Maui in Hawaii. It manages the world's largest genebank of breadfruit species and indigenous Pacific island varieties, with living collections on both islands. Established in 2003, the institute conserves breadfruit diversity and associated biocultural knowledge, and promotes the study and use of breadfruit for food security, income generation, agroforestry, and regenerative agriculture.

We seek to fill a Senior Scientist position to take a leadership role in integrating research, conservation, and extension programs to support and improve conservation and use of breadfruit in the Pacific Islands and other tropical regions. This position will leverage the research and conservation potential of NTBG's breadfruit collection; advance the institute's participation in local and international breadfruit research and conservation networks; develop new—and manage existing—projects and agreements related to our Global Hunger Initiative in concert with international initiatives and related to plant genetic resources, climate change, food security and regenerative agriculture, and relevant Sustainable Development Goals; identify strategic and funding opportunities; and oversee extension and outreach programs. This position will be based at NTBG's Headquarters on Kauai.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions

- Develop and actively participate in conservation efforts directed toward breadfruit biodiversity and associated biocultural knowledge in the Pacific Islands.
- Coordinate existing collection conservation and research activities and establish new collaborations to study and maximize conservation and use of the plant genetic resources in NTBG's breadfruit collection.
- Extension/outreach responsibilities will focus on developing, as well as synthesizing and adapting relevant information, to produce reports and other technical, extension, and educational materials via delivery of written and web-based information.
- Engage in community outreach; participate in scientific and producer meetings, and deliver workshops and lectures to professional organizations and to the general public.
- Obtain extramural funding support for research projects and extension/outreach programs.
- Supervise and mentor post-docs, graduate students, research technicians, and interns.
- Work with interdisciplinary teams in a culturally diverse work environment.
- Flexibility in work schedule, ability to meet tight deadlines, and willingness to conduct fieldwork and travel locally and internationally.

Required Education and/or Experience:

- PhD in a relevant field such as agroecology, horticulture, agronomy, crop sciences, or related disciplines with a record of achievement and innovation, and a minimum of 3 years of relevant experience.
- A solid publications record including peer-reviewed scientific papers and technical reports, as well as extension/outreach materials for funders, policy makers, and lay audiences.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills; demonstrated ability to work with a broad range of agencies, organizations, and individuals in a complex, intercultural and highly dynamic working environment.
- Proven success in securing external research and operational funding including writing proposals and managing grants/contracts.
- Familiarity with international policies on plant genetic resource (PGR) and experience with best practices for their management, conservation, and use.

Physical requirements:

This position requires the candidate to be physically fit and capable of lifting 50 pounds. It requires frequent talking, hearing, use of hands and fingers, extensive walking, reaching with hands and arms, and stooping, kneeling, crouching or crawling. This position is required to stand, sit, climb or balance and taste and/or smell. Vision requirements are close, distance, color distinction and the ability to adjust focus.

Work Environment:

Frequent exposure to variable weather in outdoor conditions including heat, rain, and wind. Must be able drive and to work outside for extended periods of time in a variety of weather conditions. Will also be exposed to wet and dry laboratory environments involving standing and sitting and an office environment to include prolonged sitting and keyboarding.

Travel:

Frequent interisland, occasional national and international.

Start date: July 1, 2020, or sooner.

****Note** Will add this information only to the announcement:**

Application Process

Closing date for application: February 29, 2020

Applications must include: a cover letter which should address how the candidate's background/experience relates to the specific duties of the advertised position; curriculum vitae/ résumé; 1-3 relevant publications/extension materials; and three (3) letters of recommendation.

Submit to:

National Tropical Botanical Garden

Attn: Human Resources

3530 Papalina Rd.

Kalaheo, HI 96741

Phone: (808) 332-7324 ext. 229

FAX: (808) 332-9765

E-Mail: hr@ntbg.org

* Applications and web link to more detailed position description are available from the NTBG website:

<https://ntbg.org/about/jobs>