



VACANCY NOTICE –TECHNICIAN

The Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), an autonomous institute funded by member countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) invites applications for the position of Technician.

OBJECTIVE

Main objectives of the Technician are:

- 1) To provide assistance in all technical aspects with respect to the implementation of Component 2 of the APP as follows:
 - (a) validating and disseminating traditional knowledge and innovative practices
 - (b) facilitating access to and demonstrating use of improved production systems, including use of appropriate technology aids
 - (c) establishing multiplication units to produce, collect/acquire and distribute quality germplasm
 - (d) Developing the capacity of institutions to develop, multiply and manage breeder and stock seeds and small ruminant breeding stock
 - (e) Developing small producer/entrepreneur capacity for multiplying and managing improved germplasm
 - (f) Validating production and productivity and value-added and marketing prospects of selected germplasm, including those under protected systems
 - (g) Introducing, evaluating, selecting and multiplying and distributing to producers ‘climate-ready’ germplasm through strategic linkages with regional and extra-regional banks.

JOB SUMMARY

The APP’s objective is the improvement of the regional food and nutrition security. It aims to achieve this by contributing to reduction of poverty and the sustainable economic growth of small producers/entrepreneurs of CARIFORUM member states. Some of the approaches to achieving this goal include the setup and management of experimental/validation trials and demonstration sites and training activities for primary producers. The technician would work alongside the specialist officers in the execution of all field and training activities as well as evaluation of results.

SCOPE OF SERVICE

Tasks Will Include:

- On site assistance in the set up and management of experimental/validation trials and demonstration sites including laying out of experiments/trials and, for crops, land preparation, planting, agronomy and harvesting of plots and for small ruminants, forage agronomy, feeding and husbandry.
- Preparation for and participation in farmer training activities
- On site data collection which may entail edaphic, biotic and/or climatic data as well as socio-economic related information.

REPORTING AND DELIVERABLES

- Established experimental/validation trials and demonstration sites
- Successfully managed trials and demonstration sites.

- Relevant data/information as requested by supervisor.

KNOWLEDGE SKILLS AND ABILITIES

The successful candidate must possess extensive knowledge in the areas of agriculture, agronomy, natural resource management, agricultural extension or related fields.

He should be familiar with the activities of interpreting experimental designs and establishing experiments/trials, collecting and preparing samples and specimens of plants, soil and animals and organizing and participating in demonstrations to disseminate agricultural information to farmers. He must also possess good oral and written communication skills. The candidate must be computer literate.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

The successful candidate will have the following qualifications:

- Graduate qualifications/expertise in Agricultural Science, Agronomy Natural Resource Management, Agricultural Extension or related fields.
- 3 years' experience working in the areas of agriculture, agronomy natural resource management, agricultural extension or related fields.
- At least a Diploma in general agriculture with a minimum of four years working experience in agricultural production.
- Experience in and ability to execute the following activities/tasks, are mandatory:
 - Interpreting experimental designs and laying out and establishing experiments/ trials
 - Observing, measuring, recording and reporting on experiments/ trials and demonstration sites
 - Collection and preparation of samples and specimens of plants, soil, animals etc. for analysis
 - Identification of the need for various experimental/ trials inputs and procuring same
 - Organizing and participating in demonstrations to disseminate agricultural information to farmers and community groups
- Good oral and written communication skills in order to relate to farmers, farm labourers, other technicians, professionals and project stakeholders and report periodically both verbally and in writing on all field work
- Ability to drive field vehicles (must have a valid driver's license)
- Computer literacy is required

Applicants should reach the Institute no later than Tuesday 3rd February 2015 and should be addressed as follows:

Executive Director
Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI)
P.O. Bag 212
St. Augustine
Trinidad and Tobago
Email: executive@cardi.org

Unsuitable applications will not be acknowledged.