The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) – a member of the CGIAR Consortium (www.cgiar.org) – develops technologies, innovative methods, and new knowledge that better enable farmers, especially smallholders, to make agriculture competitive and profitable as well as sustainable and resilient. CIAT conducts research for development in tropical regions of Latin America, Africa, and Asia (www.ciat.cgiar.org).

Position Summary:

The Research Assistant will have the responsibility of carrying out various field activities related to forage and environment work. His/her work will support the CGIAR Research Program (CRP) on Livestock project entitled ‘Agri-entrepreneurship, technology uptake and inclusive dairy development in Tanzania’ (Maziwa Zaidi Phase 2) in northern Tanzania. Maziwa Zaidi is consolidating research to date and translating it into a pilot integrated package of interventions targeting agribusiness development along the dairy value chain and uptake of innovations at farm level. The innovations will comprise various bundled feed, health, genetics technologies that can be profitably leveraged by strengthened agribusinesses. The project will generate evidence to catalyze investments for an inclusive and sustainable development of the dairy value chain in Tanzania.

Main duties and responsibilities include:

- Provide technical input on feeds/forages and environmental co-benefits to the overall project with close backstopping from CIAT scientists;
- Coordinate closely with ILRI project coordinator in Arusha, and ensure full integration of all activities into overall project, and work closely with local and national partners;
- Participate and represent CIAT in project activities including reviews and planning workshops, and report back;
- Prepare training material and other communication and knowledge sharing products from existing research outputs;
- Sensitize and train farmers and agri-preneurs on forages and environmental co-benefits, and organize and communicate to farmers groups on planned activities;
- Lead implementation of forage demonstration plots together with farmers and agri-preneurs;
- Collect field data including forage productivity and soil quality;
- Participate in organization and implementation of surveys in the forages promotion sites;
- Backstop the environmental impact modeling study with information on livestock systems and integrated packages;
- Lead organization and logistical arrangements of field visits, workshops according to program; and support forage registration in Tanzania where applicable
- Write update reports, and contribute to publication of research results;

The candidate shall have the following competencies, skills and experience:

- Degree in Agri-preneurship, agricultural sciences, livestock or other related fields (BSc level)
- At least three (3) year of relevant work experience in an R4D context with technical experience in feeds and forages;
- Experience with data collection, management, storage and analysis
- Computer literate especially in Microsoft Word and Excel
- Excellent written and oral communication skills both in English and Kiswahili
- Proven field experience in Tanzania, especially with farmers and other stakeholders
• Methodical and able to follow agreed activity protocols
• Must be able to work independently with minimal supervision, but also participate as a team member in accomplishment of duties;
• Manage complex partnerships and work with various internal and external partners;
• Strong ability to co-ordinate, prioritize and organize workload, take initiative and work under pressure;
• Ability to work in a multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional, and multi-cultural environment and to motivate others.
• Commitment to CIAT’s mission and core values
• Ability to work with flexibility and at times for long hours
• Strong attention to detail and maintaining a timely and efficient work flow

Terms of employment:

The position is nationally recruited and based at the CIAT Offices in Arusha, Tanzania. The contract will be for a one-year period, subject to probation period of three (3) months, renewable depending on performance and availability of resources. CIAT offers a multicultural, collegial research environment with competitive salary and excellent benefits; we believe that the diversity of our staff contributes to excellence. CIAT is an equal opportunity employer, and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.

How to apply:
Applicants are invited to visit http://ciat.cgiar.org/ciat-jobs to get full details of the position and to submit their applications clearly indicating “Ref: 2020-FR-2594 Research Assistant” as the position applied for. Applications should be saved as one document using the candidate’s last name, first name for ease of sorting.

CIAT does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing or training). CIAT also does not concern itself with information on applicants' bank accounts.

Applications closing date: 21st February 2020

Please note that email applications will not be considered.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted