WHEAT TRANSFORMATION Post-doctoral Fellow

The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), is seeking an innovative, self-motivated, scientifically outstanding candidate for a post-doctoral fellowship to focus on wheat transformation protocol development, candidate gene evaluation and transgenic product development within the Molecular Plant Breeding Cooperative Research Center (MPB-CRC: www.molecularplantbreeding.com). The position is initially available for two years with an opportunity to lead to a career path position for an outstanding scientist. The position will be initially based at CIMMYT’s Main Campus located 45 km northeast of Mexico City, Mexico.

The Wheat Transformation Post-doctoral Fellow will contribute to MPB-CRC projects on optimizing Agrobacterium-mediated transformation protocols plus the generation and testing of transgenic material with putative tolerance to drought and putative resistance to diseases. These projects involve collaboration between CIMMYT and the Victoria Department of Primary Industries in Australia (both core participants in the MPB-CRC). The Genetic Resources Program at CIMMYT comprises more than 20 scientists from a range of disciplines including germplasm conservation, genomics, bioinformatics, interspecific hybridization, biometrics and germplasm enhancement who work in holistic trait-targeted teams including specialists in physiology, pathology, entomology, biotechnology and plant breeding based in the regional programs. Primary trait priorities in the regional wheat breeding programs include drought tolerance, pest and disease resistance, grain quality and agronomic traits. The successful candidate will work in close coordination with the wheat molecular breeder, the rainfed wheat breeder, the wheat physiologist, and the disease resistant breeder/pathologist.

We are seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

- Ph.D. degree in molecular biology and/or cereal transformation
- Familiarity with molecular breeding programs and a strong background in genetics and molecular genetics
- Ability to optimize transformation protocols
- Experience in high throughput transgenesis pipelines
- Knowledge of drought tolerance physiology and/or molecular plant-microbe interactions
- Interest in international agricultural research and development
- Ability to work well as part of multidisciplinary, decentralized teams
- Proficiency in spoken and written English language

Experience in any of the following areas would be considered an asset:

- Cereal breeding programs
- Marker-assisted transgene introgression programs
- Large-scale micropropagation programs
- Glasshouse tissue culture production systems
- Promoter and gene construct development and evaluation
- Intellectual property and/or biosafety regulation management
- Biometric and bioinformatics analyses
- Proficiency in Spanish

CIMMYT (www.cimmyt.cgiar.org) is an internationally funded, non-profit research and training organization affiliated with the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research ( CGIAR: www.cgiar.org) and has an annual budget of over US$40 million. CIMMYT’s mission is to help the poor in the developing world by increasing the productivity, profitability, and sustainability of maize and wheat-based cropping systems while protecting natural resources. The Center is a global leader in scientific research and training related to maize and wheat improvement, and in biotechnology, economics, and natural resource management research. It is a core participant in the Australian Molecular Plant Breeding CRC, a joint venture involving five other core participants in Australia. These activities are conducted in partnership with national agricultural research systems, non-governmental organizations, and advanced research institutions, both public and private, in globally- and regionally-focused programs. CIMMYT employs a staff of over 600 and operates in a decentralized, partnership mode, having staff in 14 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, plus projects and partnership networks in many more.

Salaries of internationally recruited staff are paid in US dollars. Benefits include housing allowance, life and health insurance package, education allowance (from KG to Grade 12), annual medical examination, and shipping allowance. CIMMYT is an equal-opportunity employer and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality. The CIMMYT campus has recreational and sports facilities and offers transportation to international schools in Mexico City. Good housing is available on and off campus, in and outside Mexico City.

Please send via e-mail your letter of application, CV/Resume (including full contact information), and names and contact information of three references to:

Human Resources Manager, (Reference 2005/07), CIMMYT
Email: jobs-cimmyt@cgiar.org

We will accept applications until 30th October 2005.

For further information contact Dr Jonathan Crouch, Director, Genetic Resources Program j.crouch@cgiar.org Tel: (+52)55-5804-1397