

Maize Molecular Breeder

The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) is looking for an innovative, results-oriented scientist with excellent skills in plant molecular genetics to support the development of high-yielding, stress-tolerant germplasm with improved nutritional characteristics. The selected candidate will play a key role as a member of the Global Maize Program (GMP) team focusing on genetic improvement and molecular mapping of agronomically important traits, with special focus on Latin America. As a Mexico-based member of the CIMMYT-GMP, the selected candidate will also work closely with partners in advanced laboratories, seed companies, and national research programs worldwide, especially in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Discover and validate genomic regions associated with prioritized traits using an array of genetic resources available in CIMMYT's gene bank and breeding programs.
- Assist in optimizing and implementing high throughput, low-cost marker-assisted selection or genomic selection-based pipelines for maize improvement.
- Contribute to and support innovative maize molecular breeding research for accelerating genetic improvement for stress tolerance, nutritional quality and yield improvement.
- Actively participate in collaborative maize breeding, research and capacity building activities in the framework of CIMMYT's overall project agenda.
- Technical backstopping and capacity strengthening of the national partners in maize molecular breeding.
- Contribute to the visibility of CIMMYT's research, partnerships and impacts.

We are seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

- Ph.D. in Plant breeding or Genetics or Molecular Biology or closely related fields.
- At least 1-2 years of post-doctoral experience is desirable, but not essential.
- Experience in molecular breeding, especially Association genetics/QTL analysis/Fine mapping/MAS.
- Computational and statistical skills in languages such as R, GenStat, or SAS and excellent skills in molecular mapping software
- Familiarity with different SNP and sequence databases of cereals and relevant bioinformatic skills to utilize the same.
- Demonstrated ability to publish in refereed, high-impact scientific journals.
- Proficiency in spoken and written English; ability to speak Spanish or willingness to learn.
- Strong self-motivation and innovative skills, coupled with interest in international agricultural research and development.
- Demonstrated ability to work collegially and collaboratively in diverse, multicultural partnerships.

The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, known by its Spanish acronym, CIMMYT® (www.cimmyt.org), is a not-for-profit research and training organization with partners in over 100 countries. The center works to sustainably increase the productivity of maize and wheat systems and thus ensure global food security and reduce poverty. The center's outputs and services include improved maize and wheat varieties and cropping systems, the conservation of maize and wheat genetic resources, and capacity building. CIMMYT belongs to and is funded by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) (www.cgiar.org) and also receives support from national governments, foundations, development banks, and other public and private agencies.

The position will be based in CIMMYT 's main campus located in El Batán, Texcoco, Mexico, but will involve travel to other field phenotyping sites in Mexico and Latin America (and other GMP locations, as needed). The position is initially available for three years and may lead to a career path position. CIMMYT offers an attractive remuneration package paid in US dollars, with a range of benefits including housing allowance, life and health insurance, education allowance (to Grade 12), home leave, and relocation shipping assistance.

CIMMYT is an equal-opportunity employer and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.

[Apply online](#) no later than July 30th, 2012.

At www.cimmyt.org, click on "About us – Job Opportunities- Position" -2012-26, please complete the online application, including your cover letter, competencies and experience for the position, and a detailed CV/resume.

For further information, contact **Dr. B.M. Prasanna**, Director, Global Maize Program b.m.prasanna@cgiar.org or the Human Resources Office, jobs-cimmyt@cgiar.org.

Please note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted.