

**Prestigious Institution requires:
Ecological Agriculture Economist
Internal/External Vacancy**

Division: Research and Development
Program: Livestock and Environmental Management (GAMMA)
Immediate Supervisor: Leader of GAMMA Program
Job Type: International Professional Staff
Venue: Central CATIE, Turrialba, Cartago, Costa Rica

JOB PURPOSE

Mesoamerica and many parts of South America are characterized with pasture-dominated landscapes. Agricultural expansion tied to cattle ranching has been identified as a primary cause of deforestation and the degradation of ecosystem services. The Livestock and Environmental Management Group (GAMMA) at CATIE is a pioneer in the management of silvopastoral systems for competitive livestock systems, and the restoration of ecosystem services in degraded pasture landscapes. In this respect it has as one of its main priority to promote climate smart cattle production systems in the Tropical Latin American Region. The group has led regional initiatives on Payments for Ecosystem Services in pasture dominated landscapes, and with Rainforest Alliance, developed sustainable management standards for the certification of cattle farms. Currently it is implementing several projects to evaluate how "policymixes" contribute to the effectiveness of conservation of biodiversity and provision of ecosystem services in agricultural landscape dominated by cattle. As such, GAMMA is seeking a highly qualified, interdisciplinary scientist to lead our efforts in developing competitive livestock systems based on silvopastoral practices; and in implementing market based incentives and regulatory frameworks for sustainable management of cattle farms and landscapes in Meso-and South-America.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Participate in multi disciplinary team environment working on sustainable livestock systems.
- Analyze multiple value chains in landscapes dominated by cattle to determine how implementation of silvopastoral systems contributes to competitiveness of livestock farms.
- Lead research and development projects on incentive schemes for sustainable farming systems including best management practices, certification and payment for ecosystem services (carbon, water, biodiversity).
- Lead research on the valuing and payment of ecosystem services in cattle dominated landscapes including research on the costs and benefits of ecosystem service provision to society (at different scales: farm, community, county, national level).

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Coordinate research to evaluate the economic, social and ecological impacts of climate smart silvopastoral systems.
- Contribute to CATIE's education program by supervising Masters and Doctoral students and participation in CATIE courses.
- Participate in CATIE's extension activities, including farmer training programs.
- Collaborate with other programs at CATIE including: Climate Change and Watersheds; Production and Conservation in Forests; Agroforestry and Sustainable Agriculture.



DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Publish results in peer reviewed international journals, as well as in regional extension publications.
- Participate in elaboration and negotiation of research and development proposals related to sustainable and climate smart livestock systems and ecosystem services.

TECHNICAL SKILLS:

- At least a PhD degree from a recognized University in the field of Agricultural Economics, or Ecological Economics or Environmental Economics
- At least five years experience in the development of sustainable livestock systems (preference for ruminant production systems) or related fields
- Experience in modeling using system approaches
- At least five articles related to livestock and environment or ecosystem services published in international journals
- Bilingual-english and spanish
- Experience in Latin America preferred
- Capacity to manage tools (software, GIS, etc.) to be applied in modeling or simulation studies

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Coordinate with related programs of CATIE how the analysis of "PolicyMixes" contribute to biodiversity conservation and provision of ecosystem services
- Coordinate the case study of the Policy-mix project which has as one objective to evaluate the effectiveness of 'Policymixes'' in the conservation of biodiversity and provision of ecosystem services

PERSONALS SKILLS:

- Information Search
- Analytical Capacity
- Planning and organization
- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Good skills for communicating results and tools to policy makers and other stakeholders (farmers, extensionist and researchers)
- Skills in writing and negotiating research and development projects related to sustainable agriculture and management of natural resources

Located in Costa Rica, CATIE combines science, graduate education and technical cooperation. Its campus is located in a tranquil and secure natural area, rich in biodiversity, providing a high quality of life. Innovation, excellence, service, integration and appreciation of diversity, are some of the values of an institution which promotes professional growth, international and multicultural exchange.

For more information go to: www.catie.ac.cr Interested persons should send letter of application, curriculum vitae and salary requirements to economista.ae@catie.ac.cr
Deadline for receipt of documents: February 12, 2012.

CATIE does not discriminate by gender, ethnicity, age status, creed religious or political. It urges men and women on equal terms to participate.