



# National Horticulture Board

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Government of India

85, Institutional Area, Sector - 18

Gurugram - 122015 (Haryana)

Telephone 0124-2342992, 2347441, 2342989-90

[Web: http://www.nhb.gov.in](http://www.nhb.gov.in)

## **Recruitment of Research Associates (RA) for Clean Plant Programme (CPP) at ICAR HQ**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Project: Loan 4411 IND Building India's Clean Plant Program**

#### **Research Associate - 1**

#### **Objective and Purpose of the Assignment**

Horticultural crops are vital for India's food security. Horticulture is a major income source and employment opportunities for the rural population, particularly for women, and diversifies their income. The cultivation of fruit and nut trees is one of the major components of horticulture. The planting material plays a vital role in growth and productivity of fruit and nut trees. The lack of healthy and reliable plant material is one of the major constraints in production, productivity and profitability of these crops. To bridge the constraint, Govt of India has launched 'Clean Plant Program (CPP)' for production of clean planting material in important fruit and nut crops to be implemented by Department of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, Government of India, National Horticulture Board (NHB) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The objective of this assignment is to support ICAR HQ and CPP associated ICAR institutes to implement, monitor, coordinate activities aligned to the CPP design.

#### **Scope of Work**

The Research Associate will be based in ICAR HQ (Horticultural Science Division, KAB-II, Pusa campus, New Delhi) and support the Assistant Director General (Fruits & Plantation Crops) in the coordination of 9 Clean Plant Centres (CPCs) and Referral Lab (ICAR-IARI, New Delhi) to be established in the country, and CPP-related horticulture research.

#### **Detailed Tasks and/or Expected Output**

The Research Associate will perform the following tasks:

1. Support communication between ICAR Hqrs, CPCs and other ICAR units for smooth and timely actions achieved
- Analyse and summarise the results from CPCs and final reports of the progress, studies conducted under the programme
- Contribute to the generation of writing outputs such as briefs, minutes from meetings and learning documents

- Assist in organising meeting, Seminars, training etc related to program and search and analyse relevant articles, working papers etc.
  - Obtain one consolidated audit report related to ICAR institutes/clean plant centres under ICAR
2. Prepare communication materials as required
    - Assist in organising and planning the Program implementation
    - Assisting ADG(F&PC) for meetings and conferences to present work related to project from time to time.
  3. Knowledge product preparation
    - Develop materials such as briefs, executive summaries, study summaries, conference abstracts and other content for program, internal tracking, website and external channels from ICAR side as per requirements
  4. In-house research
    - The associate will contribute to in-house research projects, including literature reviews, portfolio reviews, learning papers, data gathering, developing questionnaires and databases, or other research-related tasks related to horticulture, in particular fruits and nuts
    - The associate will support research network operation as required for good practices of farmers to minimize re-infection risks
  5. Assist any other tasks as assigned by ADG (Fruits and Plantation Crops)

### Minimum Qualification Requirements

1. Ph.D. Degree in Horticulture or any sub-discipline of Horticulture Sciences
2. Other required skills include (a) demonstrated quantitative analysis skills using statistical software; (b) excellent verbal and written English-language skills; (c) a strong ability to work on a team with strict deadlines; and (d) proficiency in computer use such as MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS Excel, etc.

<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Estimated Submission Date</b>
Preparation/Consolidation of ICAR's input and review comments to CPP management platform <b>Description:</b> Preparation/Consolidation of ICAR's input and review comments to CPP management platform and annual work program	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026
Provision of input and review comments to regular communication materials	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026

<b>Description:</b> Provision of input and review comments to regular communication materials (website, newsletter, quarterly progress report, annual review report, review mission preparation reports, internal review)		
Support and coordinate workshops and meetings that are associated with ICAR <b>Description:</b> Workshops and meetings that are associated with ICAR or to take place in the ICAR premises organized	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026
Minutes/summary of workshops and meetings prepared and finalized after review by key participants <b>Description:</b> Minutes/summary of workshops and meetings prepared and finalized after review from key participants and/or organizers	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026
Any other project tasks as may be assigned	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026

**Interested candidates meeting the criteria can apply online on the web portal of NHB i.e. [www.nhb.gov.in](http://www.nhb.gov.in) under section / link "Tenders / Vacancies".**

**OR**

**Click on this link- <https://nhb.gov.in/OnlineApplication/Login.aspx>**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **Project: Loan 4411 IND Building India's Clean Plant Program**

#### **Research Associate - 2**

#### **Objective and Purpose of the Assignment**

Horticultural crops are vital for India's food security. Horticulture is a major income source and employment opportunities for the rural population, particularly for women, and diversifies their income. The cultivation of fruit and nut trees is one of the major components of horticulture. The planting material plays a vital role in growth and productivity of fruit and nut trees. The lack of healthy and reliable plant material is one of the major constraints in production, productivity and profitability of these crops. To bridge the constraint, Govt of India has launched 'Clean Plant Program (CPP)' for production of clean planting material in important fruit and nut crops to be implemented by Department of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, Government of India, National Horticulture Board (NHB) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The objective of this assignment is to support ICAR HQ and CPP associated ICAR institutes to implement, monitor, coordinate activities aligned to the CPP design.

#### **Scope of Work**

The Research Associate will be based in ICAR HQ (Horticultural Science Division, KAB-II, Pusa campus, New Delhi) and support the Assistant Director General (Fruits & Plantation Crops) in the coordination of 9 Clean Plant Centres (CPCs) and Referral Lab (ICAR-IARI, New Delhi) to be established in the country, and CPP-related horticulture research.

#### **Detailed Tasks and/or Expected Output**

The Research Associate will perform the following tasks:

1. Contribute to the development and operation of project management
  - Preparation of the CPP management platform development by consolidating ICAR's inputs and review comments. The platform will be developed for the overall project management and progress monitoring as well as for financial management
  - Preparation/Consolidation of ICAR's input and review comments to project financial management platform
2. Support communication between ICAR Headquarters, CPCs and other ICAR units for smooth and timely actions achieved
  - Analyse and summarise the results from CPCs and final reports of the progress, studies conducted under the programme
  - Contribute to the generation of writing outputs such as briefs, minutes from meetings and learning documents
  - Assist in organising meeting, seminars, trainings, etc., related to the program, and search and analyse relevant articles, working papers, etc.
  - Obtain one consolidated audit report related to ICAR institutes/clean plant centres under ICAR
3. Prepare communication materials as required
  - Assist in organising and planning the Program implementation
  - Assisting ADG(F&PC) for meetings and conferences to present work related to project from time to time.

4. Knowledge product preparation
  - Develop materials such as briefs, executive summaries, study summaries, conference abstracts and other contents for the program, internal tracking, website and external channels from ICAR side as per requirements
5. In-house research
  - The associate will contribute to in-house research projects, including literature reviews, portfolio reviews, learning papers, data gathering, developing questionnaires and databases, or other research-related tasks related to horticulture, in particular fruits and nuts
  - The associate will support research network operation as required for good practices of farmers to minimize re-infection risks
6. Impact evaluation management
  - Assist ADG (F&PC) in the day-to-day management of a large-scale impact evaluation, including organising meetings and conducting routine communications with project stakeholders
  - Plan for monitoring visits to project sites accompany other research staff on these visits; and
  - Assist in preparing reporting documents
7. Assist any other tasks as assigned by ADG (Fruits and Plantation Crops)

#### **Minimum Qualification Requirements**

1. Ph.D. Degree in Horticulture or any sub-discipline of Horticulture/ Agricultural Economics/ Plant Pathology
2. Other required skills include (a) demonstrated quantitative analysis skills using statistical software; (b) excellent verbal and written English-language skills; (c) a strong ability to work on a team with strict deadlines; and (d) proficiency in computer use such as MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS Excel, etc.

<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Estimated Submission Date</b>
Preparation/Consolidation of ICAR's input and review comments to project financial management platform <b>Description:</b> Preparation/Consolidation of ICAR's input and review comments to project financial management platform and annual work program and budget	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026
Provision of input and review comments to regular communication materials <b>Description:</b> Provision of input and review comments to regular communication materials (website, newsletter, quarterly progress report, annual review report, review mission preparation reports, internal review)	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026
Preparation of the draft monitoring report and impact studies methodologies	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026
Support and coordinate workshops and meetings that are associated with ICAR <b>Description:</b> Workshops and meetings that are associated with ICAR	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026

or to take place in the ICAR premises organized		
Minutes/summary of workshops and meetings prepared and finalized after review by key participants <b>Description:</b> Minutes/summary of workshops and meetings prepared and finalized after review from key participants and/or organizers	Final Report	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026
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