Fall Armyworm Research Collaboration Portal

Role: FAW Research Champion

Honorarium: £250 per month

Required hours: Flexible with a focus on impact

Duration: 2 months initially, with possible 2-month extension

About the role

The Fall armyworm (FAW) Research Collaboration Portal (https://faw.researchcollaborationportal.org/) was launched by CABI in July 2020 as a platform for FAW researchers to share what they’re working on, post data for others to learn from and build new connections to spark collaboration.

As of October 2020, the portal has over 350 registered users. Users have been sharing published research in the form of research notes, but need more encouragement to share information about current research projects, initiate discussion in the comment sections, and contribute to the crowd sourced databases.

We are looking for six up-and-coming FAW researchers to take on the role of Research Champion, promoting and facilitating use of the portal by researchers from around the world, for each of the six relevant subject areas.

Key accountabilities

Each Research Champion will be responsible for stimulating active use of the portal in a particular research area. The six areas are:

- Biological Control
- Biology, Monitoring, Surveillance and Scouting
- Cultural Control and Agro-ecology Management
- Environmentally Safe Pesticides and Pesticide Risk Management
- Host Plant Resistance
- Socio-economics and Impact Assessment

For their subject area, each Research Champion will:

- Maintain subject engagement within the website by submitting and responding to relevant questions/posts to prompt discussion. *(Where research notes and community questions fall under multiple research themes, all relevant Research Champions should participate in the discussion.)*
- Identify relevant researchers and encourage them to sign up to the portal.
- Cross-post between the portal and other sites, including relevant social media, such as Twitter and Facebook. (*This may involve posting a research note about a project shared on another platform, or arranging for the relevant researchers to do so. It could also involve Research Champions highlighting interesting activity within the portal on their own social media networks.*)

- Highlight key site activity for the subject area for inclusion in a FAW research collaboration portal newsletter.

- Identifying upcoming events and webinars (online or in-person) that are of relevance to FAW researchers and highlighting these on the portal.

- Track correspondence and log social media activity to share with CABI.

**Candidate profile**

- Enthusiastic, with an ability to encourage and engage in discussion with other scientists.

- Strong interest in and knowledge of fall armyworm in the context of the relevant research theme, with the ability to identify topical research issues and questions.

- Ability to manage time well to engage with portal frequently (ideally some engagement every day).

- Strong communication skills, including excellent written communication in English.

- Proficient in using functionality in the FAW research collaboration portal (training on use of the portal will be provided).

- User of social media in the context of agricultural research and development.

The role does not require a fixed number of hours per month, but it is expected that small frequent time inputs will be required, as with social media use. The opportunity is offered for 2 months initially, with a possible extension of 2 months in Q1 2021, depending on visible impact on the portal.

If you would like to apply for this role please send a CV and a short paragraph to explain why you are well suited to the role to info@researchcollaborationportal.org by Monday November 23rd 2020 at 17:00 GMT. Endorsement from a senior colleague is desired. Upon review of applications, a short interview will be conducted, where further information can be provided.

Please send any queries to info@researchcollaborationportal.org.