



OFFICE OF THE SERVICES COMMISSIONS

(CENTRAL GOVERNMENT)

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING

30 NATIONAL HEROES CIRCLE, KINGSTON 4

JAMAICA, WEST INDIES

TEL: 876-922-8600

FAX: 876-924-9764

EMAIL: communications@osc.gov.jm

WEBSITE: www.osc.gov.jm

CIRCULAR No. 206

OSC Ref. C. 4858³⁶

24th August, 2020

Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Department and Chief Executive Officers are asked to invite applications from suitably qualified officers in their Ministries/Departments/Agencies to fill the **vacant** post of **Laboratory Technician (SOG/ST 3)** in the **Agricultural Land Management Division, Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA)**, salary range \$918,981 – 1,092,379 per annum and any allowance(s) attached to the post.

Job Purpose

Under the direct supervision of the Senior Laboratory Technician (SOG/ST 4), the Laboratory Technician (SOG/ST 3) exercises responsibility for chemical and physical analyses of soil, plant tissue and water samples the calibration of instruments, based on standard operating procedures and accurate recording of results used to determine components and properties, which are used to make recommendations on crop sustainability and fertilizer use for agriculture.

Key Responsibilities

Technical/Professional Responsibilities

- Measures and weighs ingredients used in testing;
- Prepares samples and leaching solutions;
- Prepares work stations and cleans area after use. (Process includes neutralizing acid spills, which may occur);
- Performs chemical analyses on soil samples to determine pH, total nitrogen, electrical conductivity, chloride, potassium, phosphate, organic matter, exchangeable acidity, moisture, exchangeable cations and trace elements
- Performs chemical analyses on plant samples to determine levels of nitrogen, phosphate, potassium, calcium magnesium, iron, zinc, copper and manganese;
- Performs chemical analyses on water samples to determine electrical conductivity, pH, total soluble salts chloride and sulphur;
- Performs chemical analyses on fertilizer and other compound both organic and inorganic for nitrogen, phosphate and potash;
- Performs physical analyses on soil (%sand, %salt, %silt, %clay), percentage moisture in soils, infiltration rate in soils;
- Calculates and records the reading after the analysis is done;
- Calibrates machine and operates lab equipment which assists in the analysis of samples;
- Participates in exhibitions, shows and demonstrations for high and tertiary students.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Competencies

Core

- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Strong analytical and problem solving skills
- Good interpersonal skills
- Methodical
- Time management skills
- Good customer and quality focus skills

Technical

- Sound knowledge of chemistry and laboratory procedures
- Proficiency in the use of laboratory equipment
- Knowledge of internationally accepted laboratory procedures
- Knowledge of relevant computer applications
- Sound knowledge of the Government/Ministry's policies and procedures

Minimum Required Qualification and Experience

- CXC/GCE passes in English Language, Mathematics, Chemistry and one other subject
- One (1) year experience working in a laboratory environment

Special Conditions Associated with the Job

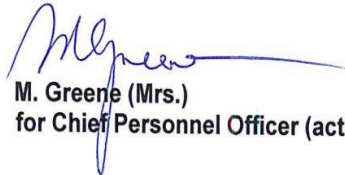
- Exposure to harmful chemicals, fumes and dusts

Applications accompanied by Résumés should be submitted **no later than Friday, 4th September, 2020 to:**

Senior Director
Human Resource Management and Development Division
Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries
Hope Gardens
Kingston 6.
E-mail: hrm@micaf.gov.jm

Please note that only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Please ensure that a copy of this circular is placed at a strategic position on the Notice Board of the Ministry/Department/Agency and brought to the attention of all eligible officers.



M. Greene (Mrs.)
for Chief Personnel Officer (acting)