



## **Kokonas Industri Koporesen Position Description**

<b>Position Title</b>	:	Senior Research Officer - Breeding
<b>Position Number</b>	:	KIKRD.030
<b>Division</b>	:	Research and Development
<b>Reports To</b>	:	Team Leader – Milne Bay Research Station (MBRS)
<b>Status</b>	:	Permanent
<b>Location</b>	:	MBRS, Punipuni, Alotau, Milne Bay Province
<b>Approved By</b>	:	KIK Board

### **1. PURPOSE**

The Senior Research Officer Breeding's primary role is to evaluate, characterise and develop new coconut varieties with improve traits and characteristics; having resistance and/or tolerance against pests diseases and other abiotic stresses for the coconut industry. The Incumbent is responsible for all breeding trials and activities on the Research Station.

### **2. ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

- (a) Design and implement coconut breeding research trials
- (b) Producing project plans and budgets
- (c) Researching new methods of plant breeding
- (d) Undertaking laboratory, glasshouse and field trials
- (e) Analysing and interpreting data
- (f) Conduct evaluation and characterising of coconut germplasm for breeding trials
- (g) keeping records of your research and findings
- (h) presenting scientific findings and other work
- (i) making presentations
- (j) writing technical publications and reports
- (k) keeping up to date with current developments
- (l) liaising with other plant breeders
- (m) managing technical staff
- (n) Other duties as assigned by the Manager Productivity Improvement or General Manager R&D.

### **3. SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Manages three (3) subordinate officers, a Research Officer (RO), an Assistant Research Officer (ARO) and a Technical Officer who then supervise field casuals in the coconut Breeding Section.

### **4. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- A Masters' Degree in Plant Breeding or Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture Science, biotechnology, botany, genetics, agriculture, horticulture or crop or plant science, from a recognized university; or an equivalent combination of qualifications;
- Relevant agricultural/field trials and plant breeding work experience of five years or more is particularly beneficial.
- Experience at the management level is desirable.

### **5. KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

#### **A. Knowledge of:**

- The fundamentals of coconut breeding work and general plant breeding work is highly desirable.
- The major Coconut Research, development and extension issues confronting the coconut industry in PNG;
- Awareness of industry trends, technology, and developments;
- Practices, policies and procedures necessary to supervise staff.

#### **B. Skills/ Abilities to:**

- Supervise, train, organize and review the work of staff;
- Understand, interpret and apply policies, rules, regulations and procedures;
  - Manage a laboratory and work independently;
- Proficiency with computers, especially MS Office and diagnostic scientific software;
- Exceptional verbal and written communication skills;
- Strong research, decision making, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills;
- Effectively manage multiple work assignments, set priorities and meet established deadlines;
- Prepare clear and concise correspondence and reports;

- Demonstrate and maintain a high degree of maturity, integrity, accountability and good judgment.