The Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry will be advertising for a term biological science technician for a 1 year appointment that is renewable for up to 3 additional years. The position will be single graded at the GS 06 or 07 level with no promotional potential. The incumbent will support the invasive species team mission of developing insect agents for biological control of invasive plants in forests of Hawaii and other Pacific Islands.

DUTIES: The technician will support research on insect agents for biological control of invasive plants in forests of Hawaii and other Pacific islands. Duties include: conducting quarantine and field studies of host specificity, development, behavior, population dynamics and impacts of phytophagous insects; organizing and analyzing ecological and geographic data; preparing written and graphic reports of results; maintaining insect colonies in quarantine; organizing use of lab and bench space; performing routine maintenance and minor repairs in quarantine and plant nursery; collecting and propagating native and introduced plants.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work is performed in office, laboratory and greenhouse environments, and also in rainforest environments where terrain is often uneven, rocky, and covered with thick vegetation, and where there is exposure to extremes of weather and temperature. The employee sometimes may be required to use protective clothing and equipment. Exposure to volcanic fumes is common.

For any technical questions regarding the above position, please contact Tracy Johnson, Research Entomologist, at the Forest Service tracyjohnson@fs.fed.us or by telephone at (808)967-7122.

The position will likely open in March 2008 and will be posted when open at www.usajobs.opm.gov
If you would like to be notified when the position is advertised, please contact by Jan 11, 2008: tracyjohnson@fs.fed.us or:
Tracy Johnson
Quarantine Facility, Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 236., Volcano, HI 96785.