

differences, come to consensus on or develop data standards.

How are the individuals participating in a standards workshop selected?

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) with particular expertise in the data standards being discussed at each workshop are recommended to IADISC by the various Regional Animal Data Information Systems Committees. IADISC then selects an appropriate number of representatives, based on expertise, global representation of our community and a cross section of institutions within the community.

How will data standards be used in ZIMS?

Data standards define the rules for recording information in a system so the data is valuable to all users because it will allow information to be queried. Data standards specifically

address areas such as the valid values within a field, how data will be entered and presented and validated, and what rules apply regarding specific data values.

How can I become a part of the data standards development process?

If you are interested in participating in the development of the ZIMS data standards, you should contact ISIS (www.isis.org) or one of your regional ADISC representatives. Contact details for regional representatives can be found on the IADISC web site (www.iadisc.org).

Announcement: Agumbe Rainforest Research Station

Suralihalla, Agumbe Village, Thirthahalli Taluk, Shimoga District, Karnataka 577411

This is to announce the establishment of a rainforest research base in South India's highest rainfall area, Agumbe in the Malnad region of Karnataka's Western Ghats. We have acquired eight acres of organically farmed land totally surrounded by RF and at present a livable farmhouse. We have plans to set up simple and comfortable quarters for researchers, a modest lab, library and common kitchen/meeting place.

Besides encouraging researchers in every aspect of forest and wildlife ecology we plan to start local conservation work, primarily aimed at stream and river cleanup/management and planting blanks and corridors with rainforest trees. The rainforest can be a tough place to work (leeches and toenail fungus immediately come to mind) but this new base will maintain a year round scientific presence and will strive to compile a complete database of Agumbe's biodiversity.

We plan to set up a NatureNet Café in Agumbe Village which will be our office and local link with the outside world. It will be accessible to the students and farmers in the village and will serve as a local wildlife/ environmental information center.

We would be grateful if you could circulate this note and will value feedback from you on three things:

1. We need to hire a very keen, experienced Kannada speaking person as Base Manager. Write to us for job description, terms and salary etc.
2. Do you have a rainforest research project that you might like to base at ARRS? We don't have any research funds at present and anyone who wishes to work out of ARRS would need to contribute toward its operational costs, but we'd like to hear from you.
3. Do you know of any important rainforest corridors anywhere in the Western Ghats which are in need of protection, purchase or other intervention. The reason we're

asking is that a) there is a chance we can raise funds to help out and b) it may be the kind of place to set up a small research base modeled on ARRS especially if there is a credible and interested NGO or individual there.

Base Manager wanted

For Agumbe Rainforest Research Station Suralihalla, Agumbe Village, Thirthahalli Taluk, Shimoga District, Karnataka

We are looking for a base manager for our research station which is in the process of being set up on eight acres of land surrounded by rainforest near Agumbe Village in the high rainfall zone of the Malnad Region in the Western Ghats of Karnataka.

We need an experienced person who speaks Kannada. An academic degree is not important, only a commitment to hard work, with an interest in and enthusiasm for conservation, wildlife research and environmental education. The Base Manager will live at the research station. Involvement in research during spare time is encouraged.

Summary job description

- Managing daily operation of the research base, supervising construction and development at the base, including tree planting, maintenance and planning.
- Providing logistic support for researchers and visitors.
- Liaison with village and forest department
- Basic office work
- Accounts, email, phone and postal communication.

Salary

Rs.10,000 to 15,000 per month depending on experience and aptitude

Contact

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