

PLUMAS COUNTY
10/2020

ADOPTED:

AGRICULTURAL AND STANDARDS TECHNICIAN III

DEFINITION

Under direction of the Agricultural Commissioner, supervises, coordinates and participates in inspection work involved in the enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to pest prevention, plant quarantine, pesticide use, apiary, vertebrate pest weed control and produce/egg quality, as well as those pertaining to weights and measures, petroleum products compressed gases, and related work as required.

Performs a variety of advanced level work in the Pest Detection and eradication of insect pests throughout Plumas and Sierra Counties.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the highest level in the Agricultural and Standards Technician class series with advanced knowledge of Integrated Pest Management Systems and agricultural laws and regulations.

REPORTS TO

Deputy Agricultural Commissioner or Agricultural Commissioner Sealer of Weights and Measures

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

Seasonal Noxious Weed Technician(s)

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EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

- Provide training and supervision for noxious weed eradication grants/contracts.
- Provide training and supervision for Insect Pest Detection contract.
- Prepares and applies chemical solutions along roadways and on other properties for the control and eradication of noxious weeds.
- Cleans and maintains truck and equipment to ensure proper working condition; performs minor repair work to equipment, as needed.
- Inspect farms, home-sites, and other property for the presence of agricultural pests.
- Explain purpose and methods of pest monitoring projects to property owners.
- Deploy, service, and monitor insect traps.
- Select trapping sites and host plants.
- Prepare and maintain maps identifying trap locations and record dates serviced and monitored.
- Prepares and submits daily work records and as required.
- Assists the Agricultural/Weights & Measures Inspector(s) in various programs within the department.
- Operate a variety of vehicles and special equipment, including personal protective equipment, power and hand tools, microscopes, test equipment, pesticide sprayers, testing standards.
- Other duties as assigned

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

While performing the duties of this job, the employee must have the ability to exert significant physical effort, such as walking, standing, climbing ladders, traversing uneven terrain, moderate to heavy lifting, and performing manual labor; moderate dexterity in the use of fingers, limbs and body in the operation of spray equipment and various tools. Requires the ability to maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception required for making observations and communicating with others.

Employee must also possess the mobility to work in a standard office setting and use standard office equipment; to operate a motor vehicle and to visit various County sites; vision to read printed materials and a computer screen; and hearing and speech to communicate in person and over the telephone. Positions in this classification occasionally bend, stoop, kneel, reach, push and pull drawers open and closed to retrieve and file information. Employees must possess the ability to lift, carry, push, and pull materials and objects up to 50 pounds frequently, necessary to perform job functions.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Employees seldom work in an office environment with moderate noise levels and controlled temperature conditions, and usually works in the field and may occasionally be exposed to loud

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noise levels, cold and hot temperatures, inclement weather conditions, road hazards, vibration, confining workspace, chemicals, mechanical, and/or electrical hazards, and hazardous physical substances and fumes. Employees may interact with upset public and private representatives in interpreting and enforcing departmental policies and procedures.

KNOWLEDGE of:

- Analyze situations accurately, make recommendations, and take appropriate action.
- Procedures and materials used in the detection and eradication of serious insect pests.
- Occupational safety and health rules and regulations.
- Federal, State and County laws, rules, and regulations related to agriculture.
- Applicable Federal, State, County, Department and Division laws, regulations, policies and procedures.
- Modern office practices, methods and computer equipment.
- Record keeping principles and procedures.
- Tools, methods and equipment pertaining to county agricultural and weights and measures inspection.
- Local agricultural industry and practices and
- Procedures and materials used in the detection and eradication of serious insects.
- Mathematical formulas, volumetric measure and basic principles of physical science.

ABILITY to:

- Write grant &/or contract narratives.
- Maintain accurate and legible field notes and prepare routine report.
- Use standard computers and software and apply basic computer skills.
- Understand and follow oral and written instruction.;
- Read and follow maps.
- Make accurate arithmetic calculations.
- Maintain cooperative relations with peers and the public; and
- Work independently in the field.
- Analyze situations accurately.
- Prepare clear, understandable, grammatically correct written reports.

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DESIRABLE QUALIFICATION

- Complete knowledge and understanding of controlling and eradication of agricultural pests is desirable.
- Read and interpret maps to ensure correct placement of traps or identify the location of pest infestations.
- Use of mechanic tools
- Mathematical formulas

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Qualifications needed for this position include:

Equivalent to completion of two years of college with coursework in agriculture or biological science, or related field. Working knowledge of modern office practices, methods and computer equipment, computer applications related to the work, and capability of traveling outside of the County for training opportunities,

OR

One (1) year of experience comparable to that of an Agricultural and Standards Technician II with Plumas County.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of an appropriate California Driver's License issued by the State Department of Motor Vehicles. The valid California Driver's License must be maintained throughout employment

Must have valid and current California Qualified Applicator Certificate issued through California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

All County of Plumas employees are designated Disaster Service Workers through State law (California Government Code Section 3100-3109). Employment with Plumas County requires the affirmation of a loyalty oath to this effect. Employees are required to complete all Disaster Service Work-related training as assigned, and to return to work as ordered in the event of an emergency.

