

Class Concept

This is administrative and supervisory work in directing a variety of field crops, horticultural crops, trees/plants, and/or animal activities on a small to medium-size research station in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Employees manage and coordinate the activities of a research station or field laboratory used for conducting a variety of agricultural research and/or teaching projects; and employees determine amount and type of crops to be produced for animal feed, the appropriate agricultural practices and crop rotation schedules. Work includes assisting researchers in developing project outlines, collecting and analyzing data, and serving as resident project manager on site, dealing with all phases of research and answering questions from visitors regarding on-going projects; and developing methods and techniques to use in the care and treatment of animals. Employees plan for staff, equipment, supply, maintenance, safety, and capital improvement needs. Employees acquire resources and allocate among the different program areas at the work unit. Work may include other duties as assigned.

Recruitment Standards

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Thorough knowledge of modern methods of agriculture as applied to diversified research or general agriculture operations.
- Considerable knowledge of the principles of animal husbandry and modern methods of dairy operations; of fertilizer requirements for a variety of agricultural crops and soil types and appropriate uses of a variety of other agricultural chemicals; of the feeding, testing, breeding and general care of animals specific to the facility; and of the symptoms, nature and treatment of common plant and animal diseases and illnesses.
- General knowledge of safety laws, rules and regulations.
- Ability to plan, direct, and supervise the work of technical and non-technical employees; to maintain or supervise the maintenance of accurate records, reports, and statistical data; to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees and others, including farmers and grower organizations; to develop plans for a long-range agricultural program; and to express oneself effectively in oral and written form.

Minimum Education and Experience

Bachelor's degree in animal science, crop science, horticulture science, or a related curriculum from an appropriately accredited institution and four years of progressive experience in general agricultural management, agricultural research or agricultural education; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.