

A. MAJOR DUTIES

Typical, but not all-inclusive, tasks are as follows:

Performs tasks such as fertilizing, preparing seedbeds, transplanting, laying sod, aerating, pruning, trimming, and applying chemicals to plants according to directions.

Lays out field plots; sows seed; weeds and cultivates as necessary; waters and fertilizes plants; ventilates greenhouses; operates temperature and humidity controls; reports equipment failures to supervisor but can personally solve simple mechanical problems; assists in recording agronomic data in different experiments; and performs related duties in the greenhouse, growth chambers, and field operations.

Harvests, labels and stores plants or plant parts; collects, cures, threshes, packages and stores seeds; prepares plant labels and attaches to plants.

Operates soil shredders, large mixing machines, portable sprayers, motorized wheelbarrows, soil steaming and transfer wagons, rototillers, small garden-type tractor plus attachments as needed.

B. FACTORS

1. SKILL AND KNOWLEDGE

Applies a basic knowledge of all aspects of plant farming management, including growth medium preparation, handling of seed, plant propagules, planting techniques and skills, watering, fertilization, insect control, seasonal light and temperature effects, temperature, humidity and artificial light requirements, all to obtain and maintain normal or required plant growth and maturation.

Observes and recognizes rather simple deviations from normal processes, e.g., plant discoloration due to insufficient water or for other expected or unexpected appearances and results; dry leaves due to temperature variations or for other reasons; temperature and humidity variations, etc. Has skill in making routine adjustments.

Skill in operating a variety of hand and power-operated tools and equipment.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Works under supervision of a higher grade employee who outlines the assignment and gives specific instructions as to how work can best be accomplished, after which, incumbent independently carries tasks through to completion. Work is reviewed for adequacy and accuracy of methods used and detailed checking is necessary.

3. PHYSICAL EFFORT

The work requires frequent walking, standing, pushing of carts and wheelbarrows, bending, and stooping. The farmer occasionally climbs ladders to prune or trim vegetation and frequently lifts heavy objects such as bags of fertilizer, grass seed, etc.

4. WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed both inside and outside. Outside work involves discomfort having to spend long periods of time in the sun. Inside work requires standing on damp concrete floors for long periods while maintaining hothouse plants, washing equipment, etc.

C. Other Considerations (Check if applicable)

- Supervisory Responsibilities (EEO Statement)
- Training Activities - Career Intern, Student Career Experience Program
- Motor Vehicle or Commercial Driver's License Required
- Pesticide Applicators License Required
- Safety/Radiological Safety Collateral Duties
- EEO Collateral Duties
- Drug Test Required
- Vaccine(s) Required
- Financial Disclosure Required
- Special Physical Requirements/Demands
- Other: