

MSU Extension

Agriculture and Agribusiness Institute; Extension Educator – Field Crop & Specialty Crop Production

Position Overview

As part of **Michigan State University Extension (MSUE)** and the **Agriculture and Agribusiness Institute**, this position provides local as well as statewide leadership and educational programming expertise in **field crop and specialty crop production** with emphasis on crop production under irrigation. Located in **Centerville, Michigan (St. Joseph County)**, this position will have a local focus, may collaborate across work groups, Institutes and community groups, and work with faculty, specialists and educators for overall advancement of Michigan agriculture industries. Educator will design, implement and evaluate educational programming based on basic and applied research and the needs of clientele groups; ensure dissemination of research-based information through various methods including multi-media, personal education and written articles; provide growers and agri-business professionals with the knowledge to profitably produce agricultural products, contributing to the short and long-term viability of farms, and the economic well-being of Michigan citizens; and serve as an informational resource for Extension personnel and clientele.

Application Process

Interested and qualified candidates should visit the Michigan State University jobs page at www.jobs.msu.edu to apply for **posting number 0785** under the MSU Extension postings. Candidates are asked to submit an up-to-date resume/CV and a cover letter that includes the names and email addresses of four professional references. **The application deadline is February 28, 2015.**

Qualifications

- Master's degree from an accredited institution in a field of study related to crops science, horticulture, soil science, entomology or plant pathology must be earned by date of hire;
- 3-years' experience in Extension program delivery or demonstrated ability and skill in educational program planning, implementation and evaluation (relevant experience acquired within the last 5-years preferred);
- Ability to create and carry-out a project plan from research of initial concept to project completion and follow-up;
- Experience with marketing/promotion of educational programs;
- Strong interpersonal, oral and written communication skills;
- Experience and proven ability working productively with a team;
- Proficiency in use of technology (e.g. web research, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook for mail/calendaring, distance technology, etc.) for day-to-day work and educational program delivery, record keeping, reporting, team-based communications and overall management;
- Demonstrated success in program development and delivery to diverse audiences/communities including but not limited to race, gender, socioeconomic class, disabilities and other differences;

- Proven ability in establishing and working with a diverse network of constituents and community members across race, gender, socioeconomic class, disabilities and other differences to assist with program development and outreach;
- Understanding of and ability to implement Civil Rights principles and compliance standards.

Desired Qualifications

- Understanding of and/or experience working with the seed corn industry;
- Experience in designing, establishing and analyzing field research projects conducted with grower cooperators;
- Understanding of and/or experience working with specialty crop industry;
- Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) certification.