

Consumer Horticulture Field Specialist I
College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences
Department of Plant Science
SDSU Extension
South Dakota State University

LOCATION: Mitchell Regional Extension Center

SDSU Extension seeks a creative and innovative professional to provide strong regional and statewide leadership in developing and disseminating Consumer Horticulture research-based programming and resources in South Dakota. The successful applicant will travel extensively to build strong relationships with horticultural groups, agribusinesses and government agencies to identify ongoing and emerging needs of clientele. This is a 12 month, full-time, non-faculty exempt position supervised by the Department Head of Plant Science and the SDSU Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Director.

RESPONSIBILITIES: In conjunction with the Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Director, Field Specialists, and State Specialists, this position provides leadership in bridging research to practice on horticulture topics by developing strategic partnerships and impactful programming. The successful candidate will strive to develop relationships with stakeholders to continually assess opportunities and identify needs. It will be the responsibility of this position to develop and disseminate research-based programs and resources across South Dakota in support of home and backyard gardeners, including Master Gardeners. In addition, this individual will commit 20% of its time to create and deliver research-based information through technological outreach including iGrow.org and social media platforms.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: The successful candidate is required to hold a Master's Degree in Horticulture or a closely related field by date of appointment. Also required are: effective communications skills, strong organizational and time management skills, interpersonal skills, demonstrated team work, demonstrated use of technology in managing and/or delivering educational programs and the demonstrated ability or potential to plan, implement, and evaluate educational materials and direct effective programs. Valid Driver's License.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS: Demonstrated experience with successful volunteer management, demonstrated leadership in developing or leading learning communities, leadership and teamwork with stakeholders, demonstrated collaboration in developing funding proposals to support new and/or enhanced programming and experience in publishing extension materials and peer reviewed journals. Previous Extension experience.

ORGANIZATION: Founded in 1881, SDSU is the state's largest and most comprehensive institution of higher learning. It is designated Carnegie Research University-High Intensity; it is the state's land-grant institution; and it enrolls

approximately 12,500 students. The College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences plays an integral role in fulfilling the land grant mission of the university. In addition to eight academic departments, the College is home to both SDSU Extension and the SDSU Agricultural Experiment Station. The Department of Plant Science includes 53 faculty whose expertise spans the fields of agronomy, entomology, genetics/breeding, horticulture, landscape architecture, plant pathology, plant physiology, soil science, and weed science. Plant Science has a robust research program that consistently ranks at or near the top of departments at SDSU. Grant awards have increased significantly in the past five years. Dissemination of science-based knowledge is a core mission of the Department of Plant Science. Our faculty Extension Specialists and Field Specialist provide a robust structure for meeting this mission. In Academic Programs, the department provides nationally competitive training for undergraduate students leading to B.S. degrees in agronomy, horticulture and landscape architecture. Plant Science also offers a strong graduate training environment leading to M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant science and biological sciences.

LOCATION: This position will be located in Mitchell, SD. Mitchell is a vibrant and growing community of nearly 15,500 citizens located on Interstate 90, west of Sioux Falls. SDSU is located in Brookings, South Dakota, an economically vibrant college town of 22,000 residents and home to outstanding K-12 schools, major-medical facilities, parks, and cultural and outdoor amenities. Brookings is located on the east-central border of South Dakota, along Interstate 29 and 50 miles north of Sioux Falls, a city of approximately 160,000 residents, and the core of the largest metro area in the state.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Full consideration given to applications received by September 15, 2015. Position will remain open until filled.

APPLICATION PROCESS: SDSU accepts applications through an on-line employment site. To apply, please visit: <https://yourfuture.sdbor.edu>, search by the position title, view the job announcement, and click on “apply for this posting.” The system guides you through the electronic application form and requires you to attach a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and reference page, which includes the current mailing and email addresses and phone numbers of at least five references. Email applications will not be accepted. SDSU is especially interested in candidates that can contribute to and/or coordinate course offerings that address the experiences of underrepresented minorities in organizations. Please contact SDSU Human Resources at (605) 688-4128 if you require assistance with this process.

Any offer of employment is contingent on the university’s verification of credentials and other information required by law and/or university policies, including but not limited to, a criminal background check.

For questions on the position, contact Amanda Bachman at amanda.bachmann@sdstate.edu or (605) 773-8120.

South Dakota State University is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its faculty, staff and students. Women, veterans, persons with disabilities, and minorities are encouraged to apply. Arrangements for accommodations required by disabilities can be made by emailing HR@sdstate.edu. SDSU prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion,

national origin, citizenship, ancestry, gender, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, age, disability, veteran's status or any other protected class in the offering of all educational programs and employment opportunities. Individuals with concerns regarding discrimination should contact: Equal Opportunity Officer/Title IX Coordinator, Human Resources, Administration 318, SDSU, Brookings, SD 57007. Phone: (605) 688-4128.

SHORT ADVERTISEMENT

Consumer Horticulture Field Specialist I, Location: Mitchell, SD. College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences, Department of Plant Science, South Dakota State University. The Consumer Horticulture Field Specialist provides strong regional and statewide leadership in delivering research-based programming in the Urban/Rural Initiatives Capstone. The successful candidate will develop and disseminate research-based programming and resources across South Dakota in support of home and backyard gardeners, including Master Gardeners. SDSU actively seeks to increase social and intellectual diversity among its faculty. Women, veterans, minorities, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. To apply, and for a summary of the minimum and preferred qualifications, application deadline, and contact information for questions on the position, visit <https://YourFuture.sdbor.edu>, search for the position, and follow the electronic application process. For questions on the electronic employment process, contact SDSU Human Resources at (605) 688-4128. SDSU is an AA/EEO employer.