



Position # 0003-1592

Requisition # 498805

**Agronomic and Horticultural Crop Regional Specialized Extension Agent II, III, or IV
University of Florida/IFAS Extension
West Florida Research and Education Center (Northwest Extension District)
Jay, FL**

Application deadline: April 11, 2017

University of Florida/IFAS Extension seeks to fill a 12-month, permanent status-accruing Agronomic and Horticultural Crop Regional Specialized Extension Agent (RSA) position. This position will be based at the Jay Research Facility of the West Florida Research and Education Center. The regional focus of the position will encompass the Florida Panhandle. The RSA will be expected to develop working relationships with state and county extension and research faculty across the Florida panhandle, south Alabama, and south Georgia plus producers and other stakeholders to accomplish education, demonstration, and outreach activities of mutual interest.

General programmatic areas

The extension and demonstration program should cover regionally-applicable agronomic and horticultural crop production issues that are critical to north Florida growers. Potential areas for programming include:

- Agronomic and horticultural crop variety trials: Provide leadership and educational programming in crop variety evaluation as an area of expertise, including field testing and demonstrations, developing and disseminating educational materials, and supporting extension faculty and professional development in the Northwest Extension District.
- Participate in collaborative practical and applied research projects: Collaborate with state extension specialists on applied research projects associated with agronomic and horticultural crops at the West Florida Research and Education Center and North Florida Research and Education Center.

Specific programmatic areas

The extension program should specifically target crop variety testing, management of agronomic and horticultural crops, and agricultural Best Management Practices for crop production. The RSA should exhibit responsiveness and resiliency in order to react to changing conditions that may occur with agronomic and horticultural crop production issues.

Duties and responsibilities

Regional Specialized Agent component:

- Develop, implement, evaluate, and report on a comprehensive agronomic and horticultural crop and variety testing extension and demonstration programs in cooperation with local citizens and stakeholders, state and regional agencies, and extension colleagues.
- Use extension programs to address local, regional and emerging crop production in the Florida Panhandle.
- Contribute to the strengthening of the Florida Panhandle economy by providing educational support for long-term sustainable agronomic and horticultural crop production.
- Focus educational programs to address issues, facilitate solutions, and promote positive behavior change associated with agronomic and horticultural crop production and variety and crop trials at the WFREC Jay Research Facility, NFREC in Mariana and Quincy, and on-farm demonstration and applied research.
- Develop and deliver electronic, oral, and written educational materials to target audiences.
- Provide regional contributions, support, training, and mentorship to county extension faculty regarding agronomic and horticultural crop education programs. These contributions include aligning programs with the UF/IFAS Extension Roadmap.
- Provide regional educational workshops and programs to achieve a balance reflective of the Florida Panhandle population diversity and to address the unique educational needs of regional stakeholders.
- Collaborate with state extension specialists and other extension colleagues to conduct practical and applied research projects. Engage social scientists when appropriate.
- Serve as project leader for extramural funding that supports and enhances the extension program.
- Collaborate with UF/IFAS stakeholders and external partners to ensure the success of the position and program.

General components:

- Establish and maintain a system to measure program accountability and effectiveness.
- Provide leadership for the management of all program components including program policies, record keeping, risk management, communications, and educational materials.
- Assume other assignments and responsibilities in support of the total extension program as assigned by the West Florida Research and Education Center Director and the Northwest District Extension Director.
- Follow all university policies and procedures.

Qualifications

A master's degree is required. Degrees must be from an accredited college or university in agronomy, horticulture, soil and water science, or a related field is required. At least 2 years of experience in establishment and management of field plot experiments along with attendant statistical evaluation of results is required. The ability to use farm equipment for establishment and management of field plot experiments is required, and the ability to transport that

equipment to different locations is preferred. Land-grant university extension or equivalent educational programming experience is preferred.

The RSA must be willing to work irregular hours and weekends; occasional overnight travel is required. Must be able to obtain a Florida driver's license.

Further information

Information about the West Florida Research and Education Center can be found here:

<http://wfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/>

The Northwest Extension District includes Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington counties. Information about the Northwest Extension District can be found here:

<http://nwdistrict.ifas.ufl.edu/>

UF/IFAS Extension is a partnership among state, federal, and county governments that provides scientific knowledge and expertise to the public through the Florida Cooperative Extension Service. UF/IFAS Extension encompasses thousands of extension faculty members, scientists, educators, administrative staff, and volunteers, all working to making knowledge accessible to sustain and enhance the quality of human life. For more about UF/IFAS Extension, please see <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/about/> .

Application Instructions

Apply through the online UF application system at <http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/498805> , and attach your Resume or CV, as well as a cover letter that describes how your experience and qualifications have prepared you for this position.

TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION, PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING:

You must submit unofficial copies of all transcripts and/or coursework of your academic degrees. You may attach these as an "other" document, or you may submit to our office as directed below. An unofficial copy is acceptable for the application process, but before you can be hired, IFAS Human Resources must have the official transcript for your highest degree on file.

Also, all applicants must have at least three reference rating forms on file. Reference forms must be less than one year old. If you have not already done so, please contact your professional/academic references and ask that they complete a reference rating form on your behalf. The form is located at http://personnel.ifas.ufl.edu/ref_form.pdf .

Please also complete and submit the Previous Employment Form (located at http://personnel.ifas.ufl.edu/prev_employment.pdf).

With the exception of official transcripts, all items submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than the next business day after the position closing date. All documents submitted by fax or email must be received no later than the next business day. If your official transcripts will arrive after the closing date, you must also submit unofficial transcripts by the deadline.

Requested reference forms and transcripts should be submitted to:

Ms. Dana LeCuyer
UF IFAS Human Resources
Faculty Recruitment and Hiring
P O Box 110281
Gainesville, FL 32611-0281
dlecuyer@ufl.edu
Fax: (352) 392-3226

Final candidate will be required to provide official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered "official" if a designation of "Issued to Student" is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), which can be found at <http://www.naces.org/>.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The selection process will be conducted in accord with the provisions of Florida's 'Government in the Sunshine' and Public Records Laws. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.