



Career Opportunity – Field Research – Efficacy Trials

Location: Minto and Elm Creek, Manitoba

Ag-Quest has been the premiere provider of Western Canadian contract research services for the agricultural industry since 1983. Ag-Quest is growing and is looking for full-time, permanent Research Associates to join our team to conduct various types of product efficacy field trials at the Minto and Elm Creek Research Stations.

Qualifications:

- M.Sc. or B.Sc. in Ag or B.Sc in other areas, Ag background is preferred.
- Must have a Valid Class 5 Driver's license or higher class.
- Must have Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Residency status
- Experience with field research trials, trial design, and crop production practices, and operation of field research equipment (tractors, seeders, sprayers, combines, etc.) is an asset.
- Ability to identify crop pests, primarily weeds and diseases.

Skills

- Excellent attention to detail
- Ask questions to clarify and understand and follow protocols, procedures, situations
- Problem solving and critical thinking
- Strong English written and verbal communication with project coordinators and clients
- Able to work both independently and in a team environment
- Able and willing to learn new skills
- Strong organizational skills and time management
- Familiarity with trial design and layout is an asset

Research Associates Job Description:

The successful candidate will be primarily responsible for conducting multiple field trials testing efficacy of products like pesticides, fertilizers, inoculants and other plant growth promotants. The candidate will be responsible for all aspects of conducting these agricultural field trials as per protocol for the duration of the research season. This includes, but is not limited to, locating trial sites suitable for crop and pests, operating plot equipment, planting crops and introducing pests, maintaining trials, applying test item and maintenance pesticides, assessments, harvesting trials, data analysis and summary, writing and submitting trial reports to clients.

The candidate will be required to work outdoors, operate small plot equipment including tractors, plot drills, sprayers, mowers and harvesters, as well as driving trucks and trailers. Depending on workload and skill levels, other trial and duties may be assigned. The candidate will participate in annual SOP review and ongoing training. Attention to detail, organization, patience, and the ability to plan in the face of changing weather conditions are critical attributes for this position.

A field season of apprenticeship under an experienced Researcher may be required before the candidate has the necessary skills to assume the role of a Research Associate.

The candidate will be expected to work independently and as a member of the Ag-Quest team. Communication and cooperation with other research personnel is essential to ensure all programs at the station are completed successfully. Extended work hours will be required during peak seasons. The winter season will be dedicated to training, facility and equipment maintenance, and assisting with other programs to contribute to the overall success of the company. Some travel may be required to off-station trials.

Start date: January 2, 2019, flexibility on start date.

Salary: Dependent on relevant experience and education. Benefit package is available.

Candidates should outline their work experience, research qualifications and practical skills in the resume and cover letter, and be prepared to provide references. Only those candidates under consideration will be contacted. This position will remain open until filled.

Please apply to careers@agquest.com.