

## **Hiring 2018 Field Research Assistant**

Washington State University Extension-San Juan County is hiring a temporary part-time staff member to assist with applied agricultural research projects. WSU Extension has initiated several on-farm research projects seeking to address priority questions for San Juan County farmers. Research projects include management of wireworms in vegetable crop production; impact of aeration, over-seeding and organic fertilizer amendment on forage quality and productivity; crop variety evaluation and more.

We are seeking an individual who has a high level of attention to detail, experience with field research and/or farm work, and a flexible schedule. Time commitment will be approximately 5 to 15 hours per week from early July through the end of October. Total hours will not exceed 200 during this 4-month period. Compensation will be \$18 per hour. This position will report to Brook Brouwer, Director of WSU Extension-San Juan County. The research assistant will be provided with a work station and use of a desktop computer at our office in Friday Harbor, WA. Field research will be conducted at locations county-wide. All projects are conducted on working farm land and will require respectful engagement and coordination with multiple cooperators.

**Position open until filled. To be considered in first round of applications, submit a one page cover letter, résumé and names of three references to [brook.brouwer@wsu.edu](mailto:brook.brouwer@wsu.edu) by 8:00 AM Monday June 11<sup>th</sup>. See Duties and Essential Functions and Qualifications below.**

### **Duties and Essential Functions**

- This position requires active field work in variable weather conditions as well as office-based data entry and report writing.
- Assist in the establishment, maintenance and evaluation of on-farm trials located on San Juan, Orcas, Lopez and Waldron Island.
- Tasks may include planting, transplanting, weeding, watering, measuring, recording data, entering data and preparing written reports.
- Collecting and processing of forage and soil samples and other metrics of forage quality.
- Lifting and carrying hand tools and supplies including 50lb bags of soil amendments.

- Assisting with additional tasks related to agricultural program education and outreach.

### **Required Qualifications**

- Employees are required to provide their own reliable transportation. Mileage, ferry and other travel costs will be reimbursed. While using a private vehicle for official business, employees must have current automobile liability insurance (meeting the requirements described in RCW 46.30.020 and RCW 46.29.090) and possess a valid driver's license.

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- Educational background in biological sciences or related field
- Excellent attention to detail and organizational skills
- Experience with field research
- Experience working on farms
- Ability to work independently
- Positive and resourceful problem solving skills
- Flexible schedule
- Working knowledge of Word, Excel, and Google Docs