

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 by 8:00 AM Monday June 11th. 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