Soil and Crop Sciences can prepare you for a challenging career in many areas including: soil and crop management, plant breeding and genetics, seed science, environmental soil science, soil restoration and conservation, international agriculture, and ecosystem management. Other exciting areas include organic agriculture, water science/irrigation and beneficial use of waste products. A primary concern to all soil and crop scientists is the protection of our natural resources. The Soil and Crop Sciences program places special emphasis on establishing career skills, involvement in research and extension activities, hands-on experience and a fundamental understanding of basic sciences.

Soil and Crop Sciences encompasses the study of the plant, soil, and water resources that are foundational to all agroecosystems. It includes the production and management of food, feed, and fiber crops to meet human needs and the simultaneous protection of our environment. We have a national as well as a worldwide role in improving crop and soil technology.

Soil and Crop Sciences works to integrate genetic diversity, improved soil quality, and efficient use of water resources into sustainable agroecosystems. It simultaneously tries to protect and conserve genetic and soil resources against deterioration and even improve them. This role is mandatory because the world’s rapidly increasing population places great pressure on land for food supplies and on environmental quality for human comfort and well-being.

Sample careers for majors
- ADM Alliance Nutrition
- Myogen Seeds
- Advanced Crop Care
- Whole Foods Market
- Alabama Farmers Cooperative
- North Central Coop
- B-Farms Partnership
- Nutri Turf, Inc.
- Colorado Department of Agriculture
- Pioneer Hi Bred International
- Crop Quest Agronomic Service
- Purdue University, Dept. of Agronomy
- Davis Farm Services
- Sam Roberts Noble Foundation
- Dynamic Systems
- Servi Tech
- Ed Brummels Seed
- Syngenta
- US Agency for International Development

Sample Job Titles of Graduates
- Agronomist
- Crop Scout/Consultant
- Farming Operation
- Organic Certification Specialist
- Research Technician
- Sales Representative
- Seed Production
- Conservation/Environmental Technician

For more info:

The Career Center
career.colostate.edu

Contact the Career Center at 491-5707 to schedule an appointment with your Career Counselor
Beka Crocket

Career Center Liaison for the College of Agricultural Sciences
http://www.agsci.colostate.edu/career

Sample Employers
- Helena Chemical Company
- Farmers Cooperative
- United Suppliers
- GROWMARK
- Haverkamp Brothers
- US Marine Corps
- USDA ARS
- USDA FSA
- Marriott International
- USDA NRCS
- US Marine Corps
- US Agency for International Development
- Peace Corps

College of Agricultural Sciences Liaison Office
Beka Crocket
970.491.3721
Beka.Crocket@colostate.edu
125 Shepardson

career.colostate.edu

The Career Center Main Office:
Rm. 26, Lower Level, LSC
970.491.5707

Drop In Office
116 LSC next to Sweet Sinsations

For more info:

Graduate School Checklist:

- Determine which degree will be most beneficial to you in your career growth, M.S., Ph.D.
- Develop a list of schools that offer programs in areas that interest you
- Obtain information about the research professors are conducting there.
- Gather information about the programs and rate them.
- Gain experience in the field you want to pursue in graduate school.
- Ensure that you have met all undergraduate prerequisites for the graduate school program(s) you apply for.
- Develop a plan for how you will pay for graduate school.
Salary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
<th>Low Salary</th>
<th>High Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agronomist</td>
<td>$42,214</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>52,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation/Environmental Technician</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>52,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crop Scout/Consultant</td>
<td>39,250</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farming Operation</td>
<td>41,000</td>
<td>32,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Precision Ag Specialist</td>
<td>53,400</td>
<td>53,400</td>
<td>53,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Technician</td>
<td>25,100</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Representative</td>
<td>45,667</td>
<td>32,000</td>
<td>54,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Production</td>
<td>42,000</td>
<td>42,000</td>
<td>42,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Certification Specialist</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>66,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Importance of Field Experience**

10 Things employers want

1. Written/Oral Skills
2. Honesty/Integrity
3. Teamwork Skills
4. Interpersonal Skills
5. Motivation/Initiative
6. Strong Work Ethic
7. Analytical Skills
8. Flexibility/Adaptability
9. Resourceful Employee
10. Organizational Skills

**When To Start Seeking Career Information?**

Start early - even in high school. Those who prepare early put themselves in a position to command the highest demand in the marketplace. Employment statistics suggest that people will change jobs 6 to 8 times throughout their working life and thus the process of seeking and analyzing career information is a life-long task.

Internships provide students with opportunities to observe and develop useful technical and management skills and to gain professional experience. The internship experience provides the student with an opportunity to "test" a selected career prior to graduation. Internships are particularly important for students with limited rural/agricultural background.

Depending upon the internship selected, students will gain "real world" experience. Internships may be paid or unpaid and students may earn college credit for their internship experience. Some students continue on with the company that they completed an internship and have an entrance into their career.