

Job Vacancy #09-14
Regional Extension Specialist (Agriculture & Business Management)
Peaks & Plains Region
Washington County, Akron, or Logan County, Sterling, CO

This position primarily provides agricultural and business management expertise in the northern part of the Peaks and Plains Region. In addition, there is some responsibility both to the Front Range counties and the State working collaboratively with the Agriculture and Business Management Team. The area is home to both small and very large farms and ranches having a wide variety of crop and livestock enterprises. Major livestock enterprises include, cattle feeding, cow/calf, swine, and dairy. Primary irrigated crops include, corn, alfalfa, dry beans, sugar beets, potatoes, and onions. Primary non-irrigated crops include wheat, millet, sunflowers, and corn. Vegetable crops are grown in certain areas. Organic crops, bio-fuels, and grapes are emerging enterprises. Office location for this position is either Akron, Colorado in Washington County or the Colorado State University Engagement Center in Logan County in Sterling, Colorado. To learn more about Colorado State University Extension, go to:

<http://www.ext.colostate.edu>.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINE: All materials must be **RECEIVED** no later than **Noon Mountain Time May 9, 2014** for full consideration. Please submit the following via e-mail to apply:

- Cover letter
- Statement (no more than 5 pages) of how you meet all the "Required" and "Desired" criteria listed in the Vacancy Announcement
- Resume
- Name, address, telephone, e-mail address, and your relationship to at least four (4) references. References will not be contacted without prior notification of candidates.
- Transcripts of college(s) course work **showing degrees conferred.**

E-mail all materials to coopext_personnel@mail.colostate.edu. If you are unable to e-mail your materials, please call 970-491-1617 for alternate delivery methods.

For questions regarding the application process, contact 970-491-1617 or coopext_personnel@mail.colostate.edu.

For questions regarding the job vacancy and responsibilities, please contact William Nobles, 719-545-1845, or william.nobles@colostate.edu.

PURPOSE OF POSITION: To provide leadership in the development, implementation, and evaluation of Agriculture and Business Management educational programs for producers in support of the broad range of agriculture and natural resources. To work as a member of the Agriculture and Business Management team, and cooperate with other Extension agents and specialists, university faculty and researchers, and industry and community partners to meet the priority needs of producers. For the purpose of this position, producers include a broad range of individuals engaged in agriculture and natural resources; from the new and enthusiastic owner of a 25 acre parcel to fifth generation farmers and ranchers.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS: The individual in this position will work as a member of a team of state and regional agriculture and business management economists. They are a regional representative of Colorado State University and will work under the supervision of the Peaks and Plains Regional Director. There is also potential for a joint appointment in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (DARE), in the College of Agricultural Sciences, upon review and approval from the department's faculty. The successful candidate will:

- Individually and collaboratively develop, market, deliver, and evaluate non-credit educational programming and information delivery to assist producers/managers in operations of all sizes in making comparative, profitable decisions among strategic financial, production, marketing, legal and human resource alternatives. Succession planning and liquidation of assets, crop and livestock enterprise analysis, drought management strategies, and direct marketing for small scale and organic producers are current topics of interest.
- Develop relationships with agricultural businesses, producers, consumers, advisory committees, research centers, and related agencies to continually assess conditions, needs, and strategies to achieve goals and measure desired outcomes.
- Develop, conduct and distribute the results of applied research/demonstration trials and programs with and for producers to stimulate increased net profit while maintaining environmentally sound and safe food production practices (i.e. typical production costs, custom rate costs and market data).
- Work effectively with interdisciplinary teams to assist producers/managers to profitably integrate new technologies into existing operations.
- Facilitate community decision makers and the general public's understanding of issues related to the region's agriculture industry and economic development options.
- Provide program and information delivery support to colleagues in agriculture and business management as appropriate; this may take the form of delivering priority consumer or industry programming, representing CSUE on boards or in partnerships, or responding to requests for information in areas of expertise.
- Seek out and manage external funding sources to support programming efforts, practice cost recovery.
- Effectively communicate and coordinate resources, research and programming with personnel/staff of Colorado State University and its colleges, and other agencies and institutions to enhance program development, delivery and evaluation.
- Use technology and media resources to extend information and educational opportunities to Coloradans.
- Participate in professional development opportunities as appropriate or required by the position.
- Provide leadership and assistance with other activities as assigned by Extension.
- Assure compliance with civil rights and affirmative action policies.

SALARY: Salary will be commensurate with education and experience.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- Completed master's degree required. Degree and experience must have provided significant work in agricultural economics, economics, agribusiness, agricultural marketing or closely related field. Academic background should also include training in communications and the behavioral sciences.
- Coursework and work experience that demonstrates knowledge in areas such as: business development and management principles, production economics, direct marketing of products, value-added concepts, sustainability concepts, natural resource management or commodity marketing channels.
- Demonstrated skill working with people as individuals, groups, and staff, and the ability to develop and lead equitable partnerships with other professionals and organizations to accomplish team goals as indicated by experience and references.
- Evidence of drive and initiative. Must be a self-starter.
- Ability to communicate as demonstrated through application materials and experience, in teaching, public speaking/presentation and writing skills.
- Leadership ability as demonstrated by professional experience and/or elected/appointed positions of responsibility.
- Computer literacy as demonstrated by evidence of computer use in an educational setting, including, but not limited to program development, delivery, and/or management.
- Understanding of different ethnic and socioeconomic audiences, a commitment to include diverse voices in program prioritization and planning, and a commitment to developing and delivering both inclusive and targeted programming.
- Knowledge of and experience with methods of conflict resolution, facilitation or public issues education.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE DESIRED:

- Professional experience in assisting both large and small producers, businesses and individuals, solve financial management problems in group situations as well as individually, by identifying appropriate research and adapting it to local situations or specific enterprises or personal financial management situations.
- Experience and familiarity with mass media and electronic communications.
- Experience in identifying audience needs, developing programs and evaluating impacts of programs.
- Demonstrated experience or commitment to developing skills in contracting, donor development, grantsmanship or cost recovery efforts.
- An appreciation of both rural and urban communities; an understanding of the complexities of their interface, sustainability challenges facing rural communities and an interest in facilitating communication and education to create bridges.
- Experience or knowledge of organic production principles and direct marketing of agricultural products.
- Ability to speak Spanish.

BENEFITS: Based on full-time employment. Twenty-four working days vacation each year, 15 days sick leave. Enrollment in group health, life and accident insurance, various retirement plans, work injury benefits, and disability insurance are all available. Available personal transportation required, travel allowance provided. A full description of benefits is available at: <http://www.hrs.colostate.edu/benefits/>.

Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Colorado State University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all Federal and Colorado State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services.

Colorado State University Extension operates in compliance with the same laws and executive orders as the University as administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As a part of the USDA regulations, the Extension Equal Employment Opportunity representative may be contacted at 1311 South College Avenue, Room 102, Colorado State University.

BACKGROUND CHECK: Colorado State University is committed to providing a safe and productive learning and living community. To achieve that goal, we conduct background investigations for all final candidates being considered for employment. Background checks may include, but are not limited to, criminal history, national sex offender search and motor vehicle history.

Application process and additional information may be obtained at our Web site: www.ext.colostate.edu (click on Employment) or by contacting:

Judith A. Barth, Ph.D., Director, Operations/HR
Colorado State University Extension
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(970) 491-1617

#09-14 Deadline: Noon Mountain Time 5/09/14