

AGRICULTURAL AND STANDARDS INSPECTOR II

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, perform routine and complex inspections and investigations to enforce laws and regulations pertaining to the California Food and Agricultural Code, Business and Professions Code, and the California Code of Regulation. Perform pest regulation, pest prevention, inspection, to inspect and test weighing and measuring devices; to verify consumer transactions and product quality; and to do related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the first experienced working level in the Agricultural and Standards Inspector class series. Incumbents are expected to be licensed and work in at least three of the fields (including Pesticide Regulation, Pest Prevention, and Weight Verification), requiring State licensing to County agricultural and weights and measures inspection and enforcement.

REPORTS TO

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures or Agricultural and Standards Inspector III as designated

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

None

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

- Inspects fruits, nuts, vegetables, honey, eggs, or other agricultural commodities in markets, packinghouses, and storage areas for compliance with regulations related to standards and grades.
- Issues certificates of inspection.
- May order reconditioning or destruction of produce deemed to be below minimum standards.
- Inspects nurseries for plant pest and diseases.
- Inspects incoming plant shipments for evidence of disease, pests, or noxious weed seeds.
- Inspects transported agricultural commodities to insure that they are free from injurious insects or plant disease.
- Issues pesticide permits and may inspect pesticide application to crops.
- Inspects apiaries, examines fields, orchards, roadways, and cultivated areas to determine the location and extent of rodent, weed, bird, insect, predator, and plant disease infestations.
- Controls and eradicates plants, weeds, rodents, birds, and other pests.
- May certify or specify the treatment of agricultural products as a condition of movement or shipment.
- Inspects seeds and seed shipments for noxious weed seeds.
- May operate trucks, spray rigs, and other equipment.
- May apply herbicides for weed and brush control.
- Inspects, tests, and seals commercial weighing and measuring devices.
- Weighs, measures, and counts the contents of packaged commodities to verify the accuracy of labels.
- Inspects and investigates weigh master licenses; collects petroleum product samples for testing to insure stated qualities.
- Investigates complaints related to consumer transactions.
- Prepares records and reports of inspections and tests conducted.
- Takes appropriate enforcement actions.
- Performs needed maintenance on equipment.
- Provides information to growers and homeowners regarding pest problems.
- Gathers information for annual crop reports.
- May provide training for less experienced staff.

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TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; walk, stand, or crouch on narrow, slippery, and erratically moving surfaces. Stoop, kneel, bend to pick up or move heavy objects; physical ability to lift and carry objects weighing up to 50 lbs. May crawl through various areas requiring moving on hands and knees; walk for long distances; walk on sloped ground/floor and uneven surfaces. Need normal manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed both in office and outdoor environments; some exposure to controlled and hazardous substances; some exposure to smoke, gases, and fumes; continuous contact with staff and the public.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Pertinent State and Federal laws and regulations related to the functions of the County Agricultural Commissioner and the Sealer of Weights and Measures.
- Law enforcement powers, procedures, and policies of the County Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures.
- Proper inspection methods and procedures.
- Statistical testing techniques.
- Construction, mechanics, and operation of scales, meters, and other weighing and measuring devices.
- Proper packaging and identification of commodity contents.
- Common agricultural practices of County crops.
- Common pest control methods.
- Microsoft Office Suite

Ability to:

- Interpret and enforce agricultural and weights and measures laws and regulations.
- Impartially perform field inspections and gather a variety of information and data.
- Gather and maintain information concerning County crops.
- Prepare and maintain records and reports.
- Understand and carry out oral and written directions and policies.
- Work independently.
- Maintain effective communications and good relations with the public.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships.
- Operate trucks, dollies, cranes, ATVs and spray trucks.
- Travel extensively throughout Plumas and Sierra counties.

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Training and Experience:

Qualifications needed for this position:

At least one (1) year of inspection and enforcement experience comparable to that of an Agricultural and Standards Inspector I with Plumas County.

Possession of one or more valid statewide specific category license as a County Weights and Measures Inspector or County Agricultural Inspector/Biologist; **OR**

Possession of a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college with specialization in one or more appropriate disciplines in agricultural, biological, chemical, or physical sciences as approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture; **OR**

Possession of a Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college in any discipline with a minimum of 30 semester units, or equivalent, in one or any combination of the following disciplines: Agricultural Science, Biological Science, Chemical Science, Physical Science, Mathematics, and/or Statistics.

Special Requirements: Possession of at least three (3) core licenses of eligibility (including Pesticide Regulation, Pest Prevention, and Weight Verification) as a County Agricultural Biologist or County Weights and Measures Inspector as determined by the Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures. Ability to obtain and maintain required licenses is a condition of continued employment.

****Core Licenses:*** *Pesticide Regulation, Investigation and Environmental Monitoring, Integrated Pest Management, Commodity Regulation, Pest Prevention and Plant Regulation, Weight Verification, Measurement Verification, and Transaction and Product Verification.*

Possession of an appropriate California Driver's License issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. The Commissioner/Sealer may require possession of a Commercial Driver's License based upon the program needs of the department.

All County of Plumas employees are designated Disaster Service Workers through State law (California Government Code Section 3100-3109). Employment with Plumas County requires the affirmation of a loyalty oath to this effect. Employees are required to complete all Disaster Service Work-related training as assigned, and to return to work as ordered in the event of an emergency.