



JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Asian Citrus Psyllid & Plant Specialist

REPORTS TO: Canine Detection Services President

CLASSIFICATION: Regular – 8 month, exempt, at-will

LOCATION: Brawley, CA

WORK HOURS: Typically Monday through Friday; frequent extended hours and weekends, travel subject to operational demands.

SUMMARY: The Asian Citrus Psyllid & Plant Specialist will support the Asian Citrus Psyllid Detection Canines For California research project. This is a USDA HLB Agency Coordination (MAC) funded project which is underway in Imperial County, CA. The purpose of this project is to determine if detection dogs are able to locate Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) populations in regions of California where the psyllid populations are very low in order to assist with psyllid eradication efforts.

ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES:

- Serve as the lead support staff for all ACP matters in the ACP detector dog research project.
- Collect ACP at the Mt. Rubidoux bio-control facility in Riverside regularly and maintain insect cages at canine training facility in Brawley.
- Prepare canine training aids.
- Pick-up and care for all plants used to maintain the psyllids.
- Place and retrieve training aids during canine training.
- Assist with the collection of research data.
- Maintain ACP lab records as well as training aid records.
- Perform ACP visual scouting before and after canine training.

- Assist in the optimization of the canine training aid.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the president.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- Problem-solving, communications, priority setting, and time management skills are necessary.
- Clear, effective written and oral communication.
- Self-starter and can-do spirit with pride in the outcome of the final project.
- Thoroughness, accuracy, objectivity and integrity.
- Knowledge and experience in entomology, specifically with the ACP.
- Knowledge and experience in plant science, specifically curry and citrus.
- Ethical conduct and the ability to exercise confidentiality.
- Ability to create and organize data.
- Ability to meet deadlines and organizational goals.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION:

Work experience rearing insects is required.

Work experience rearing Asian Citrus Psyllid preferred.

Work experience identifying naturally occurring ACP nymphs preferred.

College degree in a relevant science field is desirable.

Solid experience and knowledge of Microsoft Office.

Must be comfortable around dogs of all sizes.

Must have legal authorization to work in the U. S.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Competent use of an insect aspirator and secure insect rearing cages.
- Willingness to reside full-time at the research base on a citrus farm in Brawley, CA. RV accommodations will be provided at no cost to the staff member.
- Ability to spend significant time in citrus orchards and training facilities, including the observation of canine detector teams during extended periods of extreme heat and cold.

- Willingness to work in the early morning hours preparing training aids when necessary.
- Possession of a valid California Driver's License and clean driving record.
- Possession of reliable transportation and willingness to use personal vehicle for work trips with mileage reimbursement.
- Frequent out-of-town, multi-day trips will be necessary.
- Ability to work both independently and in group settings for problem-solving, coordination and collaboration.
- Lifting of boxes and other field materials weighing up to 50 pounds.

EOE STATEMENT:

The Canine Detection Services is an equal employment opportunity employer without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or veteran status or other characteristics protected by the law.

Qualified applicants are invited to send resumes to jobs@canine-detection.com