
Visiting Agriculture Outreach Specialist
Crop Sciences
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

Illinois is a world leader in research, teaching, and public engagement. We serve the state, the nation, and the world by creating knowledge, preparing students for lives of impact, and addressing critical societal needs through the transfer and application of knowledge. Illinois is the place where we embrace difference. We embrace it because we value it. Illinois is especially interested in candidates who can contribute, through their research, teaching, and/or service, to the diversity and excellence of the Illinois community.

The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer. Minorities, women, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EEO>.

Primary Position Function

Develop and maintain a strong research and outreach program in apples and grain crops focusing on growers and educators in all areas of sustainable agriculture.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

Research

Develop an applied research program in apple (both cider and fresh eating) production.

Develop apple outreach materials, presentations, etc. on apple production in Illinois.

Disseminate research by attending and participating in state-wide conferences, field days, and open houses representing SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) by providing documentation to program attendees, giving presentations regarding SARE programs, and participating in other ways as needed.

Develop cider apple evaluation trials, choose and plant promising varieties.

Develop an applied research and outreach program in artisan grain production.

Oversee the development and planting of field trials on artisan grain production in Illinois

Research outreach

Maintain and update the Illinois SARE website and maintain a social media presence for SARE in Illinois using Facebook, Twitter, or other appropriate social media platform.

Attend and participate in state-wide conferences, field days, and open houses representing SARE by providing documentation to program attendees, giving presentations regarding SARE programs, and participating in other ways as needed.

Support SARE activities by preparing and monitoring budgets; administering mini-grant reviews and distributing funding to successful grantees; responding to requests for information, scheduling meetings, and corresponding with a variety of SARE constituents including advisory board members.

Organize quarterly SARE advisory board meetings including arranging meeting locations and recording meeting minutes.

Serve as co-chair of the artisan grain cooperative, a collaboration of Illinois growers, scientists, and processors, to further the adoption of artisan grains in Illinois.

Education

Required: B.S. degree in agronomy, horticulture, plant biology, or related field

Preferred: M.S. degree in agronomy, horticulture, plant biology, or related field

Experience

Required: Knowledge of apple production including pest and cultural management techniques.

Preferred: Knowledge of small, diversified farm operations including knowledge of cover crop techniques, small fruit production, and vegetable crop production.

Appointment Status

This is a 12-month, 100% time, visiting academic professional position.

Salary

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience

Proposed starting date

This position is available as soon as possible after the closing date.

Application Procedures

Please create your candidate profile at <http://jobs.illinois.edu> and upload a cover letter indicating your interest and qualifications, current CV/resume and contact information for three references by **October 22, 2019**. **All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered.**

Individuals with diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply.

For further information regarding application procedures, you may contact Linda Kemplin, kemplin@illinois.edu. You may also visit <http://cropsci.illinois.edu> for additional information.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer.