

Vegetable Crops Specialist

Would you enjoy working outdoors, solving problems and building partnerships with the academic community and agricultural stakeholders?

If so, please consider this opportunity with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to help us create and transform new research and ideas into practical programs, products and services that will ensure Ontario's vegetable production industry remains competitive and environmentally responsible.

What can I expect to do in this role?

- act as the lead provincial specialist on an assigned portfolio of vegetable crops, including tomatoes, peppers, sugarbeet, beets, eggplant, chicory, sweet corn, cucurbits, beans, peas, asparagus and rhubarb.
- research leading-edge production practices from around the world and adapt the findings to Ontario industry needs
- facilitate industry change through educational and awareness building tools such as publications, media releases, social media, speaking engagements, and one-on-one meetings with vegetable producers and industry stakeholders

Location: Ridgeway, Woodstock

How do I qualify?

Mandatory

- In order to conduct site visits at rural and remote locations, you must have a valid driver's licence to travel to locations not serviced by public transportation.

Industry knowledge:

- You have expert knowledge of vegetable crop production theories, principles and best practices.
- You have strong knowledge of Ontario's agricultural industry (production systems, economics, agribusinesses).
- You have an understanding of related disciplines in the agricultural industry to enable you to review new and existing methods, techniques, programs and policies in order to investigate and identify their suitability for Ontario conditions.

Communication, consultation and consensus-building skills:

- You have written communication skills to develop professional documents, reports and educational materials using clear, concise language.
- You have consultation skills to conduct needs assessments and set priorities in the development of training and educational materials.
- You have oral communication and facilitation skills to deliver training materials.
- You have tact, diplomacy and consensus-building skills to establish and enhance partnerships, coalitions and networks with producers and industry stakeholders.

Research, analytical and problem-solving skills:

- You have research and analytical skills to assess the educational and training needs of agricultural clients.
- You have analytical and problem-solving skills to investigate industry issues and develop evidence-based options and recommendations.
- You can develop innovative strategies and solutions in response to client requirements.
- You have an understanding of program evaluation methods.

Other important items:

- You have an understanding of adult education principles and techniques to design, deliver and evaluate training materials.
- You have planning and coordination skills to effectively manage project activities and resources.
- You are proficient with a variety of computer applications (e.g. e-mail, internet, word processing, spreadsheet, statistical analysis, database, etc.).

Salary Range: \$1,424.17 - \$1,817.78 per week

Additional information:

- 1 Temporary, duration up to 12 months (with possibility of extension), 401 Lakeview Dr, Woodstock, West Region
- 1 Temporary, duration up to 12 months (with possibility of extension), 120 Main St, Ridgetown, West Region

Please apply online, only, at www.ontario.ca/careers, quoting **Job ID 141473**, by **Wednesday, December 18, 2019**. Please follow the instructions to submit your application. Faxes are not being accepted at this time.

If you require accommodation in order to participate in the recruitment process, please contact us at www.gojobs.gov.on.ca/ContactUs.aspx to provide your contact information. Recruitment Services staff will contact you within 48 hours. Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Ontario Public Service is an inclusive employer. Accommodation will be provided in accordance with Ontario's *Human Rights Code*.

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