Job Vacancy #11-14
Regional Extension Specialist
Agriculture and Business Management Economist
Western Region, Grand Junction, CO

The position is based in Mesa County which has a population of approximately 146,700 with Grand Junction as the primary urban community. Grand Junction serves as a medical center for western Colorado and eastern Utah. The Western Region encompasses all counties west of the Continental Divide. Natural wonders provide abundant year-round recreational activities including camping, skiing, hiking, hunting and fishing. To learn more about Mesa County, go to: http://www.mesacounty.us/. 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 June 20, 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 C.J. Mucklow, 970-846-2358, or cj.mucklow@colostate.edu.

PURPOSE OF POSITION: To provide leadership in the development, implementation, and evaluation of Agriculture and Business Management educational programs for producers in the Western Region, 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 will work as a member of a team of state and regional agriculture and business management economists. The individual will serve as a regional representative of Colorado State University and will work under the supervision of the Western 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, at Colorado State University, upon review and approval of 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 funds to support programming efforts, practice cost recovery.
• Effectively communicate, collaborate, and coordinate resources, research, and programming with personnel/staff of Colorado State University and other agencies and institutions to enhance program needs, development, delivery and evaluation.
RESPONSIBILITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS CONTINUED:

- 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.

**SAKY**: Salary will be commensurate with education and experience.

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**:

- Completed master's degree. This degree must have been conferred in agriculture, agricultural economics, economics, agribusiness, business or 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 through teaching, public speaking/presentation and writing as demonstrated through application materials and experience.
- 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.
- Personal or professional commitment to diversity as demonstrated by persistent effort, active planning, allocation of resources and/or accountability for diversity outcomes.
- 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 scale 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 in developing financial support, 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, niche crop/livestock enterprises, value added opportunities, 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/](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](http://www.ext.colostate.edu) (click on Employment) or by contacting:

Judith A. Barth, Ph.D., Director, Operations/HR
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**Deadline**: Noon Mountain Time 6/20/2014