Agent (Pasture Mgmt)

Posting Details

Position Number: 103272
Title: Agent
Functional Title: Agent (Pasture Mgmt)
Category Status: 02-Faculty Non-Tenured, On Track
Applicant Search Category: Faculty
University Authorized FTE: 1.000
Unit: AGNR-UME-West Region

Campus/College Information:
Founded in 1856, University of Maryland, College Park is the flagship institution in the University System of Maryland. Our 1,250-acre College Park campus is just minutes away from Washington, D.C., and the nexus of the nation’s legislative, executive, and judicial centers of power. This unique proximity to business and technology leaders, federal departments and agencies, and a myriad of research entities, embassies, think tanks, cultural centers, and non-profit organizations is simply unparalleled. Synergistic opportunities for our faculty and students abound and are virtually limitless in the nation’s capital and surrounding areas. The University is committed to attracting and retaining outstanding and diverse faculty and staff that will enhance our stature of preeminence in our three missions of teaching, scholarship, and full engagement in our community, the state of Maryland, and in the world.

Position Summary/Purpose of Position:
The Pasture Management for Livestock Operations Specialist is responsible for planning, organizing, developing, implementing, and evaluating educational programs for Maryland communities and citizens. Specifically, this position will provide leadership and delivery of educational programming related to pasture management and hay production for livestock consumption. Program areas may include grass species and variety choices, weed control, environmental management, sustainable grazing, or other topics. The applicant will have access to Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station facilities including dairy, beef and equine facilities with 600 acres of forage crops. The Specialist will facilitate partnerships with university colleagues, local and state agencies, elected officials, communities, landowners, producers, and industry groups in facilitating implementation of best practices in pasture management. The Specialist is part of a diverse team (AGNR, UME, and key stakeholder groups) working on applied research and extension education for management of pastures and hay production for use by livestock producers in the State. The Specialist will provide leadership for relevant pasture management programming within the Agriculture and Food Systems Focus Area, one of four UME strategic programming initiatives. The Specialist will facilitate collaborative education programming with rural landowners/producers and State and County agriculture officials. The Specialist works to ensure that Extension priorities and initiatives are addressed for target audiences. The Specialist is also responsible to work intentionally and collaboratively to increase the visibility and reach of Extension programs through education designed to meet the needs of diverse audiences. The Specialist will interpret and disseminate the latest research findings using a variety of delivery and communication strategies appropriate for the intended target audience, including but not limited to workshops, classes, demonstration projects, webcasts, social media, publications, mass media and community coalitions. The Specialist represents University of Maryland Extension (UME), The University of Maryland College Park, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The Specialist ensures that educational programming is in alignment with UME’s current strategic plan and plan of work, especially as it relates to the United States Department of Agriculture. The faculty member will be on track for tenure and promotion to a higher rank in accordance with University policy and UME tenure guidelines within a timeframe defined. In carrying out these duties, the individual is responsible to the Assistant Director – Agriculture and Food Systems Extension Program for program leadership.

Minimum Qualifications:
• Ph.D. degree in Animal Science, Agronomy, or a related field of study.
• Field research experience in pasture management and forage production that involves applications of conservation practices and advanced agricultural technology systems.
• Demonstrated leadership and management abilities along with evidence of ability to work with colleagues, students, industry and other clientele.
• Knowledge and use of computer technology for educational programming and management.
• Personal transportation and valid driver’s license required. Must be willing to travel throughout the state of Maryland. Out of state travel may also be required.
• Flexible work schedule required for delivering evening and weekend educational programs and activities as determined by clientele availability and need.
• Maryland Public Agency Applicator’s Certification required or can be obtained within 12-months of employment.
• Evidence of excellent teaching & communication skills.
• This position is subject to a Criminal History Record Check. Employment is contingent upon successful completion and clearance of the Criminal History Record Check.

Preferences:
• Extension research or similar work experience (e.g., work with formal or non-formal education and/or farm management experience).
• Experience working with graduate students desirable.
• Preference will be given to individuals with experience working with diverse audiences and all socioeconomic levels.

Additional Certifications:

Salary & Benefits:
Salary will be commensurate with experience: Ph.D. Base: $61,650. The University of Maryland offers an extensive benefits package.

Applications:
All candidates must apply online at https://ejobs.umd.edu. A complete application packet includes a cover letter, resume or CV, copies of transcripts, and three (3) professional references, including name, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

Closing Date:
For best consideration, complete application by January 1, 2017. Position will remain open until suitable candidate has been identified.

Posting Date:
10/30/2017

Physical Demands:
The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.
• This position frequently presents information through vocal and written communication to individuals of various ages, socio-economic, and educational backgrounds. The ability to express or exchange ideas vocally is important, as well as the ability to hear and perceive information at normal spoken work levels.
• A routine part of this position’s responsibilities would be to transport materials to and from field research plots and teaching/event locations, including loading and unloading the vehicle. The employee will frequently lift and/or move items weighing up to 20 pounds. Set-up and tear-down of research machinery, projects displays, tables, and chairs would be necessary at many teaching sites.
• This position requires the employee to work outdoors conducting field research, delivering programs and teaching at events. This may occur during very hot and/or inclement weather.
• Visual acuity is required for preparing and analyzing written or computer data and presentations.

Diversity Statement:
The University of Maryland, College Park, an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action; all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment. The University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, protected veteran status, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, creed, marital status, political affiliation, personal appearance, or on the basis of rights secured by the First Amendment, in all aspects of employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions.

Applicant Documents

Required Documents
1. Cover Letter
Optional Documents
1. Curriculum Vitae

Posting Specific Questions

Required fields are indicated with an asterisk (*).

1. * How did you hear about this position?
   - UMD Job Site
   - Personal Referral
   - Washington Post
   - Baltimore Sun
   - Local Publication
   - Chronicle of Higher Education
   - Inside Higher Education
   - INDEED
   - HERC
   - Hispanic Outlook
   - Diverse Jobs
   - HigherEdJobs
   - Professional Journal
   - Listserv
   - Other
   - SimplyHired
   - CareerBliss
   - Job Fairs
   - Monster.Com