

AGRICULTURAL BIOLOGIST/WEIGHTS & MEASURES INSPECTOR I/V

DEFINITION

Under the direction of the Deputy and/or Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures, conducts inspections and investigations in the enforcement of laws pertaining to pest prevention, plant quarantine, pesticide use, apiary, direct marketing, vertebrate pest and weed control, nursery and seed, produce/egg quality, as well as those pertaining to weights and measures, petroleum products, compressed gases, weigh master, device repairman, and quantity control.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The **Agricultural Biologist/Weights & Measures Inspector IV** is an advanced journey-level and lead classification in the Agricultural Biologist series. This class is distinguished from the Agricultural Biologist/Weights & Measures Inspector III in that the IV requires possession of all eight state licenses in the Agriculture/Weights & Measures inspection categories, and provides lead supervision and training to lower-level Environmental Biologists.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives direction from the Deputy and/or Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures; exercises technical and lead supervision over lower-level staff.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES -Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Recommends and assists in the implementation of goals and objectives; establishes schedules and methods for carrying out the goals, policies and procedures of the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures.

Provides technical and lead supervision of lower-level staff biologists.

Assists in budgeting and equipment acquisition and maintenance; assist in obtaining and implementing grant funded projects.

Receives and responds to public inquiries and complaints; investigates complaints and recommends corrective action as necessary.

Provides uniform interpretation of agricultural and governmental jurisdiction in the promotion of improved agricultural and environmental health standards and programs.

Plans and performs inspections, surveys, investigations and assessments to determine agricultural and environmental problems and needs.

Certifies commodities being shipped to foreign countries and other states; issues federal and state phytosanitary certificates and quarantine compliance certificates for commodities.

Test and certify all commercial weighing and measuring devices; liquid petroleum gas metered dispensers and retail gas dispensers; issues off-sale orders and notices of violation as required.

Inspects and certifies seed fields for plant disease as required by local and foreign quarantine requirements.

Inspects weigh master certificates to ensure accuracy.

Conducts illness investigation reports.

Conducts crop loss complaint investigations.

Trains and supervises staff in, and coordinates pest detection activities, including trapping insects and noxious weed control; surveys County areas for primary noxious weeds.

Registers and regularly inspects apiaries for the presence or absence of bee diseases; collects and submits samples; issues hold orders if appropriate.

Inspects incoming shipments of plant materials and other restricted articles at receiving points for compliance with plant quarantine laws and regulations; orders quarantined shipments to be treated, destroyed or returned to origin.

Inspects fruits, vegetables, nuts, eggs and honey at retail for compliance with state and federal grades, standards and labeling requirements; issues notices of non-compliance and disposal orders as necessary.

Inspects nurseries for compliance with pest cleanliness, grades, standards and labeling requirements; collects, prepares and submits pest specimens; issues off-sale orders and notices of violation as required.

Samples and weighs packaged retail and wholesale commodities for compliance with weights & measures laws and regulations; issues off-sale orders as required.

Recommends appropriate enforcement actions for non-compliance with agricultural, weights & measures, and environmental health laws and regulations.

Prepares disaster reports for various agencies as necessary.

Makes training/educational presentations to various public/private groups.

Identifies plant diseases, pests and insects brought to the department's attention by the public.

Conducts pesticide use enforcement; issues pesticide permits to growers and pest control operators.

Registers pest control advisors, businesses, pilots and farm labor contractors.

Performs general office work as required, including but not limited to preparing reports and correspondence, entering computer data, copying and filing documents, answering the telephone, assisting the public, etc.

Develop, administer and coordinate grants.

Performs related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Pertinent federal, state and county laws, regulations and ordinances.

Principles and practices of agriculture, weights & measures, and vegetation and pest abatement programs.

Proper pesticide use enforcement.

Types of weighing and measuring devices and methods used in verifying the accuracy and content of packaged commodities.

Methods, equipment, chemicals and techniques used in spraying noxious weeds.

Principles of supervision, training and performance evaluation.

Principles and procedures of record keeping.

Computer programs, software and hardware operation.

Budget preparation methods.

Basic arithmetic, algebra and geometry, and statistical analysis.

Proper pesticide use enforcement.

Ability to:

Understand, apply and enforce pertinent laws, policies, rules, regulations and ordinances.

Certify a variety of weights & measures devices in a safe and effective manner in both routine and unique situations.

Mix and safely prepare solutions of poisonous and/or dangerous chemicals for pest control work.

Conduct necessary inspections and prepare complete and accurate technical reports.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with those contacted during the course of work.

Make sound, educated decisions based on experience and advanced technical knowledge.

Make required calculations accurately and quickly as required.

Develop and administer grants.

Work independently with little supervision.

Supervise, train and evaluate assigned staff.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING GUIDELINES

Any combination of experience and training that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Experience:

Three years in increasingly responsible experience in agricultural inspection or weights & measures work, including one year of lead responsibility.

Training:

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university specializing in one or more of the following disciplines: agricultural, biological, chemical, environmental or physical sciences or other appropriate discipline.

LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE:

Requires all eight state licenses in the Agriculture/Weights & Measures Inspection categories.

Requires a valid Qualified Applicator Certificate for federal and state restricted pesticides.

Requires a valid California driver's license.

Some positions may require a valid Class B California driver's license be obtained.

ACO (Authorized Certification Official) – This requires CDFG and USDA accreditation and certification in order to perform commodity inspections, assure compliance of importing countries' requirements and issuance of Phytosanitary Certificates for worldwide export. This requires ACO accreditation every 3 years and annual Security Awareness training. This is a significant benefit to Glenn County growers, processors and exporters.

Agricultural Biologist/Weights & Measures Inspector	IV
Classification Code:	3536000
Bargaining Unit:	12
FLSA Status:	Y
Workers' Compensation Code:	9410
Pay Table:	CNTY
Range:	411