

Agronomist

An agronomist provides agronomic knowledge and leadership to growers in their assigned market while performing job duties such as field scouting, soil management, and market analysis.

What responsibilities will I have?

- Ensure accurate and reliable referrals to make recommendations to growers to achieve efficient crop productions
- Soil sample fields including depth sampling, sampling by geo-reference, and multiple site sampling looking for changes in soil texture, temperature, etc.
- Manage field trials, plant physiology, and irrigation practices
- Scout customer fields for weed insects, disease, soil health, and nutrition issues
- Ensure that application of seeding, fertilizer, and pesticide occurs when weather conditions are optimal
- Gather, compile, analyze, and interpret test results and prepare progress reports
- Analyze crop claim issues as necessary
- Document field evaluation of seed, chemical, specialty products, and fertilizers
- Provide agronomic training for staff responsible for sales and marketing
- Assist with agronomic budgeting and cost monitoring
- Interact with suppliers, applicators, and agronomy laboratories
- Remain up to date on crop nutrition and protection technology
- Work with a team to create the best experience for the customer; communicate with producers to ensure satisfaction
- Go above and beyond each customers' expectations for service

What education and training is necessary?

A bachelor's or master's degree in agronomy or a related field is required to become an agronomist. It is also advised that you receive and maintain your Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) certification.

What high school courses are recommended?

Agriculture education, biology, chemistry, mathematics, business, personal finance, and computer courses

Who are typical employers in agriculture?

Cooperatives, medium to large scale farms, crop and seed production companies, crop protection companies, government agencies, research firms, environmental organizations, colleges and universities, and extension offices

Other Titles and Roles:

Field agronomist, agronomy sales, plant scientist, precision agriculture specialist, seed specialist, and crop advisor