



Position # 0001-3997

Requisition # 53015

Classification Title: Extension Agent II, III, or IV – Citrus (Multicounty)

Application deadline: 12 October 2019

Job Description:

The Florida Cooperative Extension Service is a partnership between state, federal, and county governments that provides quality, relevant education and research-based expertise to foster healthy people, a healthy environment, and a healthy economy. We are the resource that helps educate Floridians to address issues related to agriculture, natural resources, youth development, families and communities.

University of Florida/IFAS Extension seeks to fill a 12-month, permanent status-accruing, multicounty Citrus Extension Agent position. The home location for this position will be negotiated with in the multicounty region of Desoto, Hardee, and Manatee counties.

There are approximately 127,000 acres of commercial citrus production in Hardee, Desoto, and Manatee counties. As the multicounty Extension Agent, you will develop, implement, evaluate, promote, and report on comprehensive educational programs to help producers and landowners effectively interpret and use findings of current science and technology as related to citrus production and land management. You will be expected to teach citrus horticulture, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect water quality, water management, production economics, and other topics suggested by your advisory committee.

You must develop effective working relationships with citrus growers, associated citrus organizations, advisory committees, community leaders, media, related state and local agencies, regulatory agencies, and the public. You will collaborate with county extension faculty colleagues in the Southwest Extension District, extension specialists and researchers located at IFAS Research and Education Centers dealing with citrus (Citrus REC, Southwest Florida REC, Indian River REC), and citrus research faculty on the main Univ. of Florida campus in Gainesville. You will seek opportunities to supplement state and county fiscal support for your extension programs. All extension agents devote at least 5% of their extension programming to the UF/IFAS 4-H Youth Development program.

Your specific citrus extension program will include:

- Developing, conducting, coordinating, and evaluating educational programs for citrus production.
- Teaching agricultural and horticultural BMPs.

- Providing agriculture worker safety training for citrus growers and their employees (worker protection standards, farm safety, etc.).
- Participating as a member of the regional food safety training team.
- Providing guidance and educational programming on citrus pest management, including insect, mite, disease, and weed management.
- Assisting with pesticide applicator educational programs including the supervision of testing for agricultural pesticide restricted use pesticide applicators.
- Establishing and maintaining an effective advisory committee to assist with program development and implementation.
- Assisting with 4-H Youth Development citrus and fruit crop educational programs.

Minimum requirements:

You must have a master's degree with a strong academic background in plant science, horticultural science, crop science, entomology, plant pathology, soil and water science, agricultural and biological engineering, or a closely related field. You must be able to: 1) communicate effectively both verbally and in writing (delivering public presentations and producing publications and other materials used in extension programming); 2) work effectively with diverse groups; 3) form working relationships and teams with colleagues in other counties; 4) acquire and maintain a valid Florida driver's license; 5) acquire a pesticide applicator's license within 1 year of employment; and 6) maintain a schedule that allows for irregular hours including nights and weekend work.

Preferred qualifications:

A Ph.D. degree and experience in citrus production and educational programming are preferred. Other preferred characteristics include knowledge of and experience with information technology to support the delivery of educational programs; experience working in multicultural settings and coursework/training on multicultural topics; expertise in getting groups to work together for a higher goal; managing competing priorities; and adaptability to handle unexpected situations.

Further information:

The Southwest Extension District includes Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk, Manatee, Hardee, Sarasota, DeSoto, Charlotte, Lee, and Collier counties. You will work cooperatively with Hardee, Desoto, and Manatee County Extension Directors to provide educational programming to the citrus industry and you will be located in one of these three counties. Location will be determined at the time of hire.

Extension is a partnership between state, federal, and county governments to provide scientific knowledge and expertise to the public. As such, all partners are involved in the supervision of the office and contribute to the salary and support resources. The primary goal of Extension is to disseminate the latest knowledge and applicable technologies in agriculture, human and natural resources, and the life sciences in order to sustain and enhance the quality of human life. The UF/IFAS mission is accomplished through extension faculty members, scientists,

educators, administrative staff, and volunteers working cohesively throughout Florida's 67 counties.

Application Instructions

Apply at <http://apply.interfolio.com/68656> by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern) of the posting end date, and attach:

- Cover letter that describes how your experience and qualifications have prepared you for this position
- Résumé or Curriculum vitae

The following documents are required and may either be submitted through the above link at the time of application, or sent separately to our office (below).

- Previous Employment Form (located at http://personnel.ifas.ufl.edu/prev_employment.pdf).
- Unofficial copies of all transcripts and/or coursework of your academic degrees
- A minimum of 3 reference rating forms (located at http://personnel.ifas.ufl.edu/ref_form.pdf) from your professional/academic references. Reference forms will be kept on file for 1 year and will be automatically used with any of our extension agent positions you apply for during that time.

Reference rating forms and unofficial transcripts not submitted at the time of application should be submitted/postmarked by the next business day after the position's closing date. They may be submitted to:

Ms. Dana LeCuyer
UF IFAS Human Resources
Faculty Recruitment and Hiring
P O Box 110281
Gainesville, FL 32611-0281
dlecuyer@ufl.edu
Fax: (352) 392-3226

Selected candidate will be required to provide an official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered "official" if a designation of "Issued to Student" is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#).

If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call 352-392-2477 or the Florida Relay System at 800-955-8771 (TDD). Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. Searches are conducted in accordance with Florida's Sunshine Law.

The [University of Florida](#) is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The [Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences](#) is committed to creating an environment that affirms diversity across a variety of dimensions, including ability, class, ethnicity/race, gender identity and expression. We particularly welcome applicants who can contribute to such an environment through their scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and professional service. The University and greater Gainesville community enjoy a diversity of cultural events, restaurants, year-round outdoor recreational activities, and social opportunities.