



NOTICE OF VACANCY

Extension Tree Fruit Program Leader Washington State University Search # 114569

WORKING TITLE: Extension Tree Fruit Program Leader
100% Extension

OFFICIAL TITLE: Area Extension Educator

RANK: Associate Professor or Full Professor, 12-month, tenure or non-tenure track

LOCATION: Washington State University (WSU) Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center (TFREC), Wenatchee, Washington OR Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center (IAREC), Prosser, Washington

SALARY: Competitive and commensurate with position, training and experience.

EFFECTIVE: August 16, 2012

The College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resources Sciences (CAHNRS) and Washington State University Extension (WSU Extension) seeks a nationally recognized leader in tree fruit outreach and applied research to serve as its Extension Tree Fruit Program Leader.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Extension Tree Fruit Program Leader will provide senior-level leadership for WSU's tree fruit extension and outreach activities and develop a nationally recognized information and technology transfer program in collaboration with the Extension Tree Fruit Team. This position is funded in part by an endowment made possible by a recent historic \$27 million commitment made by the state's tree fruit growers for the purpose of investing in tree fruit research and extension at WSU. This gift represents the largest private commitment to WSU to date.

Known for its iconic apple, Washington State is recognized globally as one of the world's premiere tree fruit production regions. Nationally, Washington ranks first in the production of apples, sweet cherries, and pears. The Washington tree fruit industry contributes more than \$6 billion of annual impact to the state's economy. One-third of apple and sweet cherry production is exported each year. The industry is committed to sustainable agricultural practices and conservation of water resources.

Together with the State's tree fruit industry, Washington State University strives to be the world leader in tree fruit research and education. Today, WSU's tree fruit effort includes over 30 faculty who dedicate the majority of their time and effort to tree fruit research and extension. These faculty span nine academic disciplines – horticulture, biological systems engineering, entomology, plant pathology, soil science, food science, agricultural economics, agrometeorology and rural sociology – and are located on the main Pullman campus, at two research and extension centers, and in regional extension units. This effort is supplemented with the activities of scientists in the USDA-ARS at the Tree Fruit Research Laboratory located in Wenatchee and the Yakima Agriculture Research Laboratory in Wapato, as well as a research program in the Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission.

WSU has continued to advance its tree fruit research and education program with recent investment in faculty positions in breeding and genomics, automation and mechanization, and integrated pest management, as well as the purchase of a 150-acre research and demonstration orchard near Wenatchee. The \$27 million gift from the state's tree fruit producers will add six endowed chairs, at least five extension/tech transfer positions, and provide operating funds for research orchards.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Extension Tree Fruit Program Leader will lead the effort to disseminate the information and technologies emanating from WSU's expanding tree fruit program. The Program Leader will be recognized nationally and internationally for involvement in state-of-the-art research and education activities emerging in the tree fruit industry. The Program Leader's time will be split approximately equally between leadership of WSU's tree fruit Extension Program and program development and implementation within his/her disciplinary expertise.

- Provide dynamic and visionary leadership to the Tree Fruit Extension Program, including strategic planning, prioritization and allocation of financial and human resources, and long-range facility planning and development.
- Facilitate collaborations and interdisciplinary projects among faculty in departments such as Horticulture, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Economic Sciences, Crop and Soil Sciences, AgWeatherNet, and the Center for Precision and Automated Agricultural Systems.
- Expand the resource base for the Tree Fruit Extension Program through gifts and development, stewardship, and capital planning.
- Lead a dynamic and energetic group of Extension and information and technology transfer professionals dedicated to advancing the tree fruit industry in Washington State.
- Lead the development of an effective applied research and extension program related to major issues or opportunities in the tree fruit industry.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with key industry members to inform WSU extension and technology transfer activities.
- Lead the development of new and evolving technologies and methods to maximize educational outreach efforts to stakeholders across the tree fruit industry.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Required

- PhD in an agricultural science or related discipline.
- Qualified for appointment as an associate professor or professor in a WSU Extension Program Unit and/or a department in the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences.

Preferred

- Extensive knowledge of and experience with perennial agricultural production systems.

- Demonstrated experience in an Extension programs utilizing modern information and technology transfer tools in tree fruit or other perennial cropping systems.
- Evidence of success in obtaining grants, gifts and in-kind resources to support programs.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively communicate and collaborate with academic professionals, support staff, and diverse constituencies.
- Demonstrated leadership ability or experience in developing and executing interdisciplinary programs.
- Demonstrated understanding of issues and opportunities involving Extension in tree fruit or other perennial cropping systems.
- Ph.D. in Horticulture with strong background in field of tree fruit horticulture.
- Demonstrated ability to conduct applied research in tree fruit or other perennial cropping systems.
- Demonstrated ability to interact effectively with external constituencies, such as producer associations, agribusinesses, and other organizations and agencies.
- Evidence of establishing new or novel partnerships with educational institutions, government agencies or private industry.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with individuals and groups with diverse cultures, backgrounds, and ideologies

POSITION DETAILS:

Line of responsibility: The Tree Fruit Extension Program Leader reports directly to the Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Director. The position will have direct administrative and supervisory responsibility for a cadre of 6-8 Extension faculty.

Tenure and faculty rank: Granting of tenure is possible for a qualified candidate in either the Extension Agricultural and Natural Resource Program Unit or the appropriate academic department associated with the candidate's PhD.

Location: The Tree Fruit Extension Program Leader will be located at either the Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center (TFREC) in Wenatchee or the Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center (IAREC) in Prosser. Both facilities are located in the heart of Washington's tree fruit growing region. Information about TFREC and IAREC can be found on-line at:

<http://www.prosser.wsu.edu>

<http://www.tfrec.wsu.edu>

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Washington State University (WSU):

Founded in 1890, WSU is a comprehensive land-grant University and one of the two research universities in the State of Washington. WSU is organized into nine academic colleges, the Honors College, and the Graduate School. It has an enrollment of approximately 25,000 students on four campuses (Pullman, Spokane, Tri-Cities, and Vancouver) with approximately 20,000 students located on the main campus in Pullman, WA. WSU ranks among the top 50 public research universities and is a Carnegie I, Doctoral/Research Extensive University. The University strongly values diversity among its faculty, staff, and students and seeks to ensure a welcoming climate for all. Further information about the University can be found at: www.wsu.edu.

WSU Extension:

The mission of WSU Extension is to engage people, organizations and communities to advance economic well-being and quality of life by connecting them to the knowledge base of the university and by fostering

inquiry, learning, and the application of research. Programming is provided in five overarching areas: Youth and Families, Community and Economic Development, Agriculture, Natural Resource Stewardship, and Energy. Its 700+ faculty and staff are located in all 39 of the State's counties, four research and extension centers, and within five colleges and 22 academic department. WSU Extension has seen a tremendous increase in extramural funding in recent years, with annual grant and contract acquisitions totaling over \$50 million. Total annual expenditures have recently ranged between \$70 and \$75 million. Additional information about the WSU Extension can be found at <http://ext.wsu.edu>.

College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resources Sciences:

CAHNRS is an expansive and diverse college that includes 14 academic departments, four research and extension centers, and several subject matter centers and institutes. Its faculty is geographically distributed and located at all four WSU campuses and four research and extension centers. Through its research and extension programs, CAHNRS is committed to making major contributions, which advance the disciplines represented in the college; enhance Washington's food, agriculture, and natural resource industries, as well as making significant contributions to society through its human science programs. The Agricultural Research Center is within CAHNRS, and provides funding and administrative support to address issues of critical importance to the state's food and agriculture industry. The College leads WSU in the acquisition of extramural funding, production of intellectual property, and graduate student education. Further information about the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences can be found at <http://cahnrs.wsu.edu>.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Screening of application materials will begin May 13, 2012. To apply visit: www.wsujobs.com and be prepared to submit a detailed letter of application addressing the required and preferred qualifications, a statement of vision and goals, a detailed resume/vita with publications list, and the names, addresses, and contact information for four (4) professional references. For questions about the position contact: Darla Ewald, (509) 663-8181 ext.250, dewald@wsu.edu.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER. Members of ethnic minorities, women, special disabled veterans, veterans of the Vietnam-era, recently separated veterans, and other protected veterans, persons of disability and/or persons age 40 and over are encouraged to apply.

WSU is committed to excellence through diversity, has faculty friendly policies including a partner accommodation program, and a NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant (see <http://www.excelinse.wsu.edu/>.)

WSU employs only US citizens and lawfully authorized non-US citizens. All new employees must show employment eligibility verification as required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Washington State University is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact Human Resource Services: 509-335-4521(v), Washington State TDD Relay Service: Voice Callers: 1-800-833-6384; TDD Callers: 1-800-833-6388, 509.-335-1259(f), or hrs@wsu.edu