

# University of California

## Agriculture and Natural Resources

### POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

University of California Cooperative Extension  
 Area Agronomy Advisor  
 Serving Colusa, Sutter and Yuba Counties  
 AP #12-19

**Location Headquarters: Colusa County, Colusa, California**

**CLOSING DATE: To assure full consideration, application packets must be received by February 15, 2013 (open until filled)**

**BACKGROUND:** The University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), a statewide program with local development and delivery, is seeking an academic advisor to conduct a multi-county-based extension, education and applied research program to optimize agronomic field and row crop systems. Primary emphasis will be on forage crops, wheat, safflower, processing tomatoes, dry beans, corn, and hybrid seed crops. These crops account for a total value of over \$200 million for the three-county area (2011 Agricultural Commissioner crop reports). Critical areas to be addressed include nutrient management efficiency, integrated pest management, irrigation management, sustainable farming practices, water quality and conservation, integrating technology into production practices and facilitating resolution of agricultural/urban interface issues. The Area Agronomy Advisor will address these critical issues with an integrated approach that balances the needs of California agriculture with those of resource conservation and environmental protection.



The diverse crop responsibilities make this a particularly interesting and rewarding Advisor position. In addition to the agronomic crops (alfalfa, corn, wheat and safflower), the incumbent has the opportunity to work with more intensively managed crops like processing tomatoes and the seed production industry. The area served is a hub for the seed production industry, over 10 different seed crops are grown locally, and the incumbent will work closely with this dynamic industry.

Because of the importance of these agricultural industries to local economic sustainability and the overall viability of the industry, this Advisor position is well supported—not only by industry, but also by local growers, the community, and county governments. Proximity to the UC Davis campus and a network of colleagues affords the Advisor the ability to develop strong ties and work closely with Extension Specialists, Agriculture Experiment Station faculty, and graduate students to leverage cutting edge research in solving local problems.

Advisors enjoy a mixture of job tasks and settings: research in the field, conducting educational outreach for clients, and collaborating with academic colleagues on projects. UC Advisors are encouraged to pursue individual as well as team research projects. Only at UC ANR do individuals have the ability to pursue research projects relevant to UC ANR's mission, vision and established priorities, with access to research facilities and partners at a world-class university system, while working with some of the most productive farmland in the world.

### **Our Culture:**

Working at UC ANR offers a career with a history and a future. Since the first Advisors were hired in California almost 100 years ago, we have maintained our central purpose as stewards, problem-solvers, catalysts, collaborators, and educators. Academics in UC ANR enjoy a network of



colleagues across our system of local offices, statewide programs, 3 colleges and 1 professional school in the UC system. Our culture is characterized by collaboration and entrepreneurship in a vibrant working environment. New academic staff are mentored and supported by this network of colleagues.

The UC ANR vision guides priorities in research, education, service, and resource allocation. ANR envisions a thriving California in 2025 where healthy people and communities, healthy food systems, and healthy environments are strengthened by a close partnership between the University of California and its research and extension programs and the people of the state. The University remains connected and committed to the people of California, who enjoy a high quality of life, a healthy environment, and economic success in a global economy. The full Strategic Vision is available at: [http://ucanr.edu/About ANR/Strategic Vision/](http://ucanr.edu/About%20ANR/Strategic%20Vision/).

**Colusa County:** Colusa is centrally located approximately 70 miles north of Sacramento in the Western portion of the lower Sacramento Valley. The Western portion of the county is defined by the Coastal Mountain Range. The economy is rooted in agriculture and agricultural-related businesses. Most of the valley is comprised of farmed cropland, while the foothills are largely used for grazing or recreation.



The area features numerous waterways, natural and man-made, that support an abundance of wildlife such as ducks, blue herons, cranes, deer, hawks, and pheasant. Recreational activities (including hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, and bird watching) are close at hand: three National Wildlife Refuges are in the immediate area, Lake Oroville is a 1-hour drive; the Sierra Nevada mountains and their world-class snow resorts are within a 2-1/2 hour drive; the more remote Trinity Alps are a 3-hour drive. Please visit the following websites for more information regarding UC Cooperative Extension in Colusa, Sutter and Yuba Counties:

<http://cecolusa.ucanr.edu/>

<http://cesutter.ucanr.edu/>

#### **NATURE AND PURPOSE:**

##### **Extension:**

The advisor will work with a diverse group of colleagues and clientele to provide local leadership in planning and developing educational programs to address the needs of clientele in Colusa, Sutter and Yuba Counties and manage an ongoing extension education program using a mix of traditional and emerging outreach tools including individual consultations, field days, tours, meetings, web conferences, ANR publications, peer-reviewed journals, online learning, web content systems and repositories, social media, impact and evaluation tools, along with specialized and public media outlets appropriate to the clients.

**Research:**

The advisor will provide local leadership for planning, coordinating and conducting applied research activities related to field, row and seed crops in Colusa, Sutter and Yuba Counties. The academic in this position will be expected to interact with UC ANR Program Teams, Specialists, Advisors and others within the research/extension network to develop, strengthen and expand the local delivery of statewide programs.

**MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Conduct and report regular needs assessments to identify priority issues or problems relevant to the local clientele groups being served.
- Develop and implement effective UC ANR Cooperative Extension applied research and educational programs to address the identified priority needs of the clientele that are consistent with ANR's Strategic Vision and ANR initiatives <http://ucanr.edu/files/906.pdf>.
  - Conduct applied research designed to monitor changes and solve locally relevant problems.
  - Disseminate useful, science-based information to inform clientele, using extension methods that are responsive to clientele needs and appropriate for the audience and situation.
  - Maintain and promote Cooperative Extension's credibility by providing science-based knowledge and skills independent of personal or parochial interests.
  - Evaluate programs and report accomplishments, results, and potential or actual impacts to scientific and lay audiences.
  - Develop collaborative teams with other UC ANR academics, campus-based specialists and faculty and/or others, to address priority issues for UC ANR.

**RELATIONSHIPS:** The Advisor is administratively responsible to the UCCE Sutter/Yuba/Colusa County Director.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** An understanding of and commitment to UC ANR's affirmative action goals and commitments is expected of all advisors.

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:** A minimum of a Master's Degree is required, though other advanced degrees are encouraged, in disciplines such as agronomy, horticulture, plant sciences, pest management or other closely related fields. An educational background and/or work experience in crop production, irrigation, plant physiology, weed science, entomology, plant pathology or soil science is desirable. A demonstrated ability in applied agricultural research and extension of information is desirable. Excellent written, oral and interpersonal communication skills are required.

**SALARY:** Beginning salary will be in the Cooperative Extension Assistant Advisor Rank and commensurate with applicable experience and professional qualifications. For information regarding Cooperative Extension Advisor salary scales, please refer to the University of California, ANR website: <http://ucop.edu/academic-personnel/files/1112/table28.pdf>

If the successful candidate is currently a UCCE Advisor, the candidate will be offered the position as a lateral transfer, retaining their current rank, step, salary, and definite or indefinite status.

**BENEFITS:** The University of California offers comprehensive benefits including two days per month paid vacation, one day per month paid sick leave, and approximately thirteen paid holidays

per year. Sabbatic leave is available to qualified academics. ANR participates in UC's Family-Friendly Policies. A variety of health and dental insurance plans are available, with significant employer contributions to the premiums. In addition, the University provides basic life and disability insurance, which may be supplemented at group rates. Workers' Compensation Insurance is provided. An excellent UC Retirement System is coordinated with social security, and optional annuity plans may supplement retirement. For more information, refer to the UC Benefits website at: <http://atyourservice.ucop.edu>.

**HOW TO APPLY:** To be considered, applicants must submit the following four components of the Application Packet:

1. Cover Letter
2. ANR Academic Application Form— from the ANR website at: <http://ucanr.edu/academicapplication>  
Please include a list of potential references. If you are selected for an interview, the search committee will contact the references you listed on the UC ANR application form (a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) names, current addresses, phone numbers and email addresses). Please do not send letters of reference.
3. Curriculum Vitae or Resume
4. College Level Transcripts: Original transcripts preferred, however, legible photocopies of original transcripts will be accepted.

**Application and associated materials will not be returned to the applicant.**

A search committee will review all applications, interview candidates, and recommend individuals most suitable for the position.

**To submit your applicant packet or to request a UC ANR Academic Application form, contact:**

*ANR Academic Personnel  
Academic Recruiter  
University of California, Ag & Natural Resources  
DANR Building, 225 Hopkins Road  
Davis, CA 95616*

*Voice: (530) 754-8509; FAX: (530) 752-7785  
E-mail Address: [ANRacademicsearch@ucop.edu](mailto:ANRacademicsearch@ucop.edu)  
Internet: <http://www.ucanr.edu/jobs>*

**PLEASE REFER TO POSITION NUMBER AP #12-19 IN ANY CORRESPONDENCE**

The University of California prohibits discrimination or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (covered veterans are special disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, Vietnam era veterans, or any other veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized) in any of its programs or activities. University policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws. Inquiries regarding the University's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action/Academic Personnel Executive Director, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, One Shields Avenue, DANR Building, Hopkins Road, Davis, CA 95616