

Soils & Irrigation Advisor (Applied Research and Extension)

Serving Kern County and the Southern Central Valley

Position Overview

Location Headquarters. Cooperative Extension, Kern County, 1031 South Mount Vernon Avenue, Bakersfield, California

Purpose. The Soils & irrigation Advisor will primarily address high priority initiatives to Improve Water Quality, Quantity, and Security; Enhance Competitive, Sustainable Food Systems and Enhance the Health of Californians and California's Agricultural Economy.

The Advisor should develop and integrate all aspects of crop production to promote sustainability, profitability, food safety, and environmental stewardship in the county region.



The Advisor will work with local agencies to provide outreach and information on critical issues associated with their responsibilities.

Water quality and availability are critical issues which impact crop production and soil health. Continued planting of permanent crops in areas that have not previously had fruit and nut crops because of soil or water salinity issues necessitates additional research to address these issues. Current research projects include fertilizer management in nut crops, interaction of water and nutrient management in almonds, salinity tolerance in pistachio and automated remote sensed systems for irrigation control and improving water use efficiency.

This is an exciting opportunity to have meaningful impacts in the communities in Kern County and throughout California. Opportunities abound for research and extension partnerships that link consumers and resource professionals with relevant science-based information and promote effective problem solving. You will also join a team of highly motivated UCCE colleagues who are passionate about their work and are dedicated to making a difference within the communities and working landscapes of California. The potential for collaborative projects within the UC ANR system is nearly limitless.

Counties of Responsibility. This position focuses on the Kern county area with work relevant to the wider Southern Central Valley. There is opportunity and expectation to work collaboratively across counties.

Reporting Relationship: The Advisor serves under the administrative guidance of the University of California Cooperative Extension Kern County Director.

Qualifications and Skills Required

Required Qualifications

Education: A minimum of a master's degree in soils, agronomy, water science or a closely related field is required at time of appointment.

Additional Requirements:

- Extension experience and demonstrated excellence in the areas of applied research is desired.
- Coursework and experience in Environmental programs.
- Training and experience in interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research and collaboration is preferred.
- Familiarity with California's environment and water acts will be beneficial.
- Knowledge and demonstrated use of remote methods of conducting outreach and delivery are a benefit.



Skills Required

To be successful, Advisors require skills in the following:

Technical Competence and Impact

The candidate should understand key concepts to optimize engagement and development and be able to design and implement a program that leads to positive changes and impact within the community and beyond.

Communication

Demonstrated excellence in written, oral, interpersonal and information technology communication skills.

Collaboration, Teamwork and Flexibility

Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as a team member with others. Able to adapt as circumstances warrant. Promote diversity, equity and inclusion. Work with campus-based CE specialists, faculty, and CE advisors providing irrigation expertise.

Lifelong Learning

Demonstrated commitment to ongoing self-improvement - both professionally and as a person.

Learn more about Skills and Areas of Programmatic Review at:

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/319460.pdf>

About UC ANR

The University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) consists of a network of scientists and educators working in partnership across the California. We are committed to developing and supporting healthy food systems, healthy environments, healthy communities, and healthy Californians. UC ANR administers UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE), which is responsible for program development and delivery in the counties throughout the state of California.

Learn more about

- UC ANR at <https://UCANR.edu>
- UC ANR in Kern County <http://cekern.ucanr.edu/>
- Our Strategic Initiatives <http://ucanr.edu/sites/StrategicInitiatives/>
- Our Public Value statements at [https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/2016-2020 Strategic Plan/Goal 5 Prioritize programs and services/Public values statement/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/2016-2020%20Strategic%20Plan/Goal%205%20Prioritize%20programs%20and%20services/Public%20values%20statement/)
- Affirmative Action: Further to the above, advisors are expected to share and exhibit UC ANR's commitment to affirmative action. Learn more of UC ANR Affirmative Action policy: [http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Diversity/Affirmative Action/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Diversity/Affirmative%20Action/)
- UC ANR Water Quality, Quantity, and Security Strategic Initiative [https://ucanr.edu/sites/StrategicInitiatives/Water quality quantity - security/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/StrategicInitiatives/Water%20quality%20quantity%20-%20security/)

Salary & Benefits

Salary: The beginning salary will be in the Assistant CE Advisor Rank and commensurate with applicable experience and professional qualifications. For information regarding CE advisor series salary scales, please refer to: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/353916.pdf>

Benefits: The University of California offers comprehensive benefits including vacation, sick leave, and approximately thirteen paid holidays per year. This position is eligible for sabbatical leave privileges as per the terms of University policy and is eligible for indefinite status.

For more information, refer to the UC Benefits website at:

<https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/compensation-and-benefits/index.html>

How to Apply

If interested in this position, please visit: <https://recruit.ucanr.edu/> and choose “applicants” (refer to position #21-16).

Closing Date:

To assure full consideration, complete application packets must be received by **September 24, 2021** or open until filled.

Questions?

Contact Tatiana Avoce; email: tavoce@ucanr.edu

Applicants may wish to explore the UC Davis Services for International Students and Scholars web page at <https://siss.ucdavis.edu/> as a resource.

University of California Cooperative Extension

Please note the UC Policy on COVID vaccination and working for UC: For the safety and well-being of the entire university community, the policy will require, with few exceptions, that all students, faculty and staff be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus before they will be allowed on campus or in a facility or office." Please visit <https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/2021/07/ucs-covid-19-vaccine-policy.html> for more information.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status or other protected categories covered by the UC nondiscrimination policy.

As of January 1, 2014, ANR is a smoke- and tobacco-free environment in which smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of unregulated nicotine products (e-cigarettes), is strictly prohibited.