

Assistant Specialist

(Research Specialist Series)

Sutter-Yuba Counties

75% Variable

Location Headquarters: UCCE Sutter-Yuba Counties, Yuba City, CA

Position Overview

Purpose:

The Assistant Specialist will support academics working on issues in California rice and other agronomic crops by providing greenhouse, laboratory, and field support in research and outreach projects.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

Work duties include establishing and maintaining research field plots, establishing and maintaining greenhouse research, conducting laboratory assessments of seed germination and viability testing, data gathering in the field and greenhouse, collecting field samples, applying pesticides and other agrochemicals, data gathering, summary, and analysis, irrigation management, and weed and pest identification.

Assistant Specialist must have skills to be able to identify major rice weeds, and should be familiar with the rice production area of the Sacramento Valley, understand rice production systems, and should be able to communicate effectively with clientele and other academics via phone, email, and in person. The Assistant Specialist should be able to work independently, supervise students, interns or other employees, and maintain clear and organized records of all field work and samples collected. The Assistant Specialist will participate in outreach activities, helping academics organize and conduct clientele meetings and field days, prepare extension publications, contribute to blogs, newsletters and other forms of outreach. The clientele served by this position is the California rice and agronomic field crops industries as well as more specifically growers, managers, and Pest Control Advisors.

The position will be headquartered in Yuba City, and will travel frequently between Colusa, Oroville, Biggs, Yuba City, and Davis.

Reporting Relationship: The Assistant Specialist serves under the administrative guidance of the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) County Director Sutter-Yuba Counties.

Qualifications and Skills Required

Required Qualifications

- An earned Master's degree in agricultural sciences or related field
- Experience with the Sacramento Valley and rice production systems.
- Excellent written, oral and interpersonal communication skills.
- Conduct work under high temperature conditions in field and greenhouse.

Desired Qualifications:

- Field experience establishing crops, applied research and extension.
- Experience must demonstrate:
 - Understanding of agronomy, pest management, and pesticide use.
 - Capacity to calibrate farm equipment.
 - Ability to safely assist in pesticide applications.
 - The Assistant Specialist must obtain a Qualified Applicator Certificate (QAC) or a Qualified Applicator License (QAL) prior to applying or supervising the application of any pesticide and/or prior to the start of the 2023 season.
 - Knowledge of human relations is required, including the ability to work with people with diverse views and values while motivating and adapting to changing situations.
 - Literacy in internet communications and with software to support research and education programs.

Additional Qualifications

- Expectation to be available to work onsite on any day.

Skills Required: To be successful Assistant Specialists require skills in the following:

Professional Competence and Activity

- The Assistant Specialist will participate in outreach activities, helping academics organize and conduct clientele meetings and field days, prepare extension publications, contribute to blogs, newsletters and other forms of outreach.

Communication

- Demonstrated excellence in written, oral, interpersonal and public speaking communication skills.
- Skills to communicate and extend technical information to diverse audiences are required.

Collaboration, Teamwork and Flexibility

- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as a team member with others.
- Able to adapt as circumstances warranted. Promote diversity, equity and inclusion.

Lifelong Learning

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

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 counties: https://ucanr.edu/sites/ucanr/County_Offices/
- 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/

- Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI): Further to the above academics are expected to share and exhibit UC ANR's commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion [https://ucanr.edu/sites/Professional_Development/Office - Team Management/Diversity Equity Inclusion Belonging/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/Professional_Development/Office_-_Team_Management/Diversity_Equity_Inclusion_Belonging/)
- Affirmative Action: Further to the above, all UC ANR academics 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_Action/)
- The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources is committed to attracting and retaining a diverse workforce and will honor your experiences, perspectives and unique identity. We encourage applications from members of historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups, women, individuals with disabilities, veterans, LGBTQ+ community members, and others who demonstrate the ability to help us create and maintain working and learning environments that are inclusive, equitable and welcoming.

Salary & Benefits

SALARY: The salary will be in the Assistant Specialist Rank, Step 1, (\$56,600 annually). For information regarding the Assistant Specialist series salary scales, please refer to <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/files/2022-23/july-2022-salary-scales/t24-b.pdf>

This is a represented position.

The Assistant Specialist position is a one-year limited term appointment at 75% time (variable up to 100%). The performance in the position will be evaluated prior to the appointment end date. At that time, the position may be extended based on performance, continued need for the appointment and availability of funding.

Benefits: The University of California offers comprehensive benefits including health insurance, retirement plans, two days per month paid vacation, one day per month paid sick leave, and approximately thirteen paid holidays per year. 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 #22-51)

Closing Date: To assure full consideration, application packets must be received by **August 15, 2022** open until filled.

Questions?

Contact Alma Jackson - ajackson@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

As a condition of employment, you will be required to comply with the University of California [SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\) Vaccination Program Policy](#). All Covered Individuals under the policy must provide proof of Full Vaccination or, if applicable, submit a request for Exception (based on Medical Exemption, Disability, and/or Religious Objection) or Deferral (based on pregnancy) no later than the applicable deadline. New University of California employees should refer to Appendix F, Section II.C. of the policy for applicable deadlines. (Capitalized terms in this paragraph are defined in the policy.) Federal, state, or local public health directives may impose additional requirements.

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.