



STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Administration
Division of Human Resource Management

CLASS SPECIFICATION

| <u>TITLE</u> | <u>GRADE</u> | <u>EEO-4</u> | <u>CODE</u> |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| RESEARCH TECHNICIAN | 28 | C | 9.580 |

Under the direction of professional level staff and/or scientists who assign research projects, determine priorities, provide professional guidance and review work for conformance to research standards, incumbents perform skilled technical work on research or experimental projects in agriculture, animal and plant science, range and wildlife management, or natural resources. Work is performed independently in the field, greenhouse, or at various agriculture research sites.

Conduct plant and animal field studies; trap and tag animals to determine foraging and migration habits; sample, tag and measure plants and/or animals to determine growth cycles, and how species propagate.

Prepare and organize field and plot plantings for agricultural research; design experimental formats; prepare fields or plots and plant seeds; apply fertilizer and herbicides within experimental parameters; track plant growth, soil conditions and watering cycles; and harvest resulting crops.

Install, maintain and repair water measuring devices such as flumes, meters and/or recorders to quantify water use, and compare vegetation response to different water regimens using common hand and power tools.

Establish greenhouse research projects; collect plants from the field; establish new plantings from seeds; using propagation techniques when applicable; develop soil, water and fertilizing formulas; monitor experiment for desired results and/or submit plants to a student lab as an instructional tool.

Gather research data on livestock projects; weigh, sort and take samples (blood, fecal, etc.) at regular intervals; store samples in appropriate receptacles, mark receptacles and submit samples to a laboratory for analysis.

Perform public relation duties to project a positive image in the community; serve as a resource to the community; conduct tours and make presentations to classes and/or groups.

Gather, analyze and assemble data; prepare reports for professional staff using specialized instruments such as neutron probes, infrared thermometers, PH meters, microscopes, water meters, balances, and computer software.

Perform tasks related to the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the research facility; operate farm machinery, field equipment, trucks, tractors, mowers, backhoes, balers, and drilling equipment; perform preventive maintenance and minor repairs to keep the equipment in proper operating condition; prune trees and shrubs, maintain buildings, fences, corrals, roads and other structures as required.

May supervise lower level staff, students or volunteers as assigned.

Perform related duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

- * Pursuant to NRS 284.4066, some positions in this series have been identified as affecting public safety. Persons offered employment in these positions, must submit to pre-employment screening for controlled substances.

INFORMATIONAL NOTE:

- * In order to meet the needs of the research areas, positions may require specialized background and skill which will be identified at the time of recruitment.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in biological, soil or crop science or closely related field; or high school graduation and two years of experience related to the assigned research area in which the applicant performed duties equivalent to preparing experimental field plots, preparing feed rations according to research criteria and collecting and/or recording simple field data; **OR** an equivalent combination of education and experience.

ENTRY LEVEL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES (required at time of application):

Working knowledge of: principles, practices and objectives in the assigned research area such as agronomy, soil science, horticulture, range and wildlife management, water conservation and greenhouse maintenance; applicable research techniques, terminology and their applications. **Ability to:** read, record and interpret research data; organize work and prepare projects without constant supervision; operate and maintain field and farm equipment such as trucks, backhoes, tractors, balers or drilling equipment; make repairs on farm, field or greenhouse structures and fixtures; perform heavy physical labor; follow detailed written or oral instructions and procedures; use common hand and power tools.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES (typically acquired on the job):

Working knowledge of: departmental rules, regulations, policies and procedures. **Ability to:** use scientific apparatus in the assigned research area to test, sample and gather data; respond to public inquiries, conduct tours and make group presentations; work with several research programs and project leaders; lead and supervise others as assigned.

This class specification is used for classification, recruitment and examination purposes. It is not to be considered a substitute for work performance standards for positions assigned to this class.

9.580

ESTABLISHED: 7/1/64
REVISED: 11/16/72
REVISED: 7/11/75
REVISED: 7/1/87P
10/17/86PC
REVISED: 7/1/91P
11/29/90PC
REVISED: 5/18/12PC
REVISED: 4/11/14PC