

## **Grain Farmers of Ontario**

### **Agronomist**

**Location:** Guelph, ON

**Hours of work:** Full Time (Monday-Friday, 35 hours/week)

**Compensation:** Salary & competitive benefits commensurate with education and experience

**Application Deadline:** Friday, July 7, 2017

Grain Farmers of Ontario is searching for a well-rounded and passionate Agronomist to provide leadership and technical advice on grain production challenges, representing our farmer members' interest well in grain production discussions both internal and external to the organization.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate an enthusiastic interest in generating value for Ontario's grain farmers through excellent technical and practical comprehension of current and emerging production topics affecting grain farmers, outstanding critical evaluation skills, and superior inter-personal and technical communication abilities for diverse audiences.

If you are a team player with a broad understanding of production agriculture and a demonstrated ability to effectively tackle new challenges with integrity, we invite you to submit your resume and cover letter for consideration.

#### **The Agronomist will:**

- Contribute to achieving the strategic goals of the organization
- Maintain an excellent technical and practical understanding of current and emerging issues in production agriculture affecting grain farmers in Ontario (including, but not limited to, soil health, 4Rs, phosphorous management, climate change, pesticide resistance management, IPM, precision agriculture, etc.)
- Keep up-to-date and highly knowledgeable about nutrient management regulations and other production regulations relevant to Ontario's grain farmers
- Develop and promote GFO perspectives on grain production issues through external committee involvement and stakeholder initiatives, including policy development discussions with government and private industry
- Develop a prominent, respected public presence as the GFO Agronomist by helping farmers improve the economic, environmental, and social sustainability of their production practices with unbiased advice through active participation in grower conferences, meetings, and media interviews
- Maintain strong business relationships with external stakeholders involved with production agriculture (government and private industry)
- Bring new ideas forward pertaining to grain research and contribute to the development of GFO research priorities
- Provide an agronomist perspective during the research proposal funding decision-making process and ensure that agronomic research being funded through GFO is as relevant to Ontario's grain farming scenarios as it can be

- Critically review internal and stakeholder reports on production issues to identify any areas of concern and recommend responses
- Coordinate and prepare summaries of agronomic information for producers on key production issues
- Collaborate on internal and external activities pertaining to barley, corn, oat, soybean and wheat production tools that add value to producers

### **Qualifications**

- Minimum bachelor degree with a broad background in agronomy or a related discipline
- Certified Crop Advisor designation required (4R certification an asset)
- 5-10 years relevant work experience as a Certified Crop Advisor
- Excellent knowledge of Ontario grain and oilseed production and current issues and opportunities affecting the sector
- Strong understanding of nutrient management and grain production regulations
- Grain farming experience and/or background
- Enthusiastic interest in agricultural development in Ontario with a demonstrated ability to effectively track and communicate emerging trends in production agriculture
- Sound judgment and integrity in all actions
- Creative, critical thinker, and problem solver
- Broad understanding of the agricultural sciences and an ability to translate science results into practical messages
- Excellent interpersonal skills and an outgoing personality
- Polished presentation skills and excellent written and verbal command of the English language, with a strong understanding of tone required for various audiences. Bilingualism (French/English) considered an asset.
- Excellent time-management skills required to manage and prioritize the demands of multiple overlapping timeframes and deadlines
- Proficient with MS Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)
- Self-motivated, capable of working both independently and as part of a team
- Ability to work under pressure and in stressful situations
- Flexibility to travel regularly and willing to work extended hours and evenings as required
- Must possess a valid driver's license and have access to a vehicle

This position will be a key part of the Grain Farmers of Ontario organization and reports to the Manager, Research & Innovation to update, seek guidance and obtain necessary approvals. Grain Farmers of Ontario is committed to a fair and inclusive work environment. We will endeavor to accommodate the needs of qualified applicants in all parts of the hiring process. All resume information is received in confidence. While we appreciate and thank all applicants, we will only directly contact those candidates selected for interview.

Please submit your Resume and Cover Letter to [HR@gfo.ca](mailto:HR@gfo.ca).