

**California Department of Food and Agriculture  
Pierce's Disease Control Program  
Agricultural Technician I (Seasonal)  
Duty Statement**

The primary mission of the Pierce's Disease Control Program (PDCP) is to minimize the statewide impact of Pierce's Disease (PD) and the glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWSS). PDCP is a partnership that includes the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), County Agricultural Commissioners (CAC), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the University of California and the California State Universities, other state and local agencies, industry, and agricultural organizations throughout the state.

Under the supervision of the Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory), the Agricultural Technician I (Seasonal) is responsible for participating in basic activities which pertain to the prevention and spread of Pierce's Disease and the Glassy-winged sharpshooter. This is a journey-level position in the Pierce's Disease Control Program of the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The incumbent must be able to establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted during the course of the work; work well with others, work independently in completing assigned work, take direction and meet required assignment deadlines.

**I. Program/Position Identification**

<b>Classification:</b>	<b>Agricultural Technician I (Seasonal)</b>
<b>Working Title:</b>	<b>Agricultural Technician I (Seasonal)</b>
<b>License or Other Requirement:</b>	<b>California Class C Driver's License</b>
<b>Position Number:</b>	<b>018-473-0034-996</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Arvin, CA</b>
<b>Date Prepared:</b>	<b>April 2024</b>
<b>Work Days:</b>	<b>Monday – Friday</b>
<b>Hours:</b>	<b>Various</b>

**II. Essential and Non-Essential Job Functions**

**A. Essential Functions:**

**Function#1 – Trapping Duties 40%**

- Prioritize and establish work routines in order to deploy insect traps in commercial citrus areas and among other selected crops. Utilize a state vehicle throughout the territory to monitor GWSS activity.
- Using a state vehicle, inspect insect traps bi-weekly for detection of GWSS and other pests, as needed, in a designated territory.
- Implement a variety of field survey techniques in agricultural areas (e.g.

citrus orchards, vineyards, etc.) using state vehicle to effectively detect the GWSS infestation and activity in a timely manner.

- Must be able to read maps to route the field locations where the traps were placed and draw maps to show exact geographical locations using Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates (i.e. longitude and latitude).
- Operate and maintain PDCP business vehicles to fully meet safety standards of CDFA Defensive Driving policy and conduct duties by fully complying with PDCP Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP).
- Operate and maintain equipment (e.g. iPhone or other electronic device) used for entering data of GWSS captured on each trap.
- Document and input daily GWSS trapping data electronically of significant finds and other necessary data for supervisor(s) in order to help identify potential infestation areas.
- Interact with the public in a professional manner and develop a cordial relationship with property owner or grower to enable continued access to the property for current and future surveys and trap placements.

**Function#2 – Identification and Specimen Collecting 40%**

- Recognize both GWSS and other important pests currently under quarantine or advisories in order to properly identify potential infestations and allow for coordinated program response.
- Recover and sort GWSS traps deployed at citrus orchards in order to send the traps for Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) screening to CDFA Pest Detection and Emergency Projects (PD/EP).
- Engage in the coordination of the monitoring and sampling program, under supervision, through surveys within a variety of designated areas in croplands, residential, and natural habitat in order to detect infestations of GWSS and to prevent the further spread to non-infested areas.
- Collect, prepare, document, and follow the proper chain of custody for insect specimens to be sent to the CDFA Plant Pest Diagnostics Center for identification.

**Function#3 – Engage in Other Activities 15%**

- Conduct other duties as requested by the PDCP Headquarters to accomplish its goal in controlling the spread of GWSS and Pierce's Disease.
- Provide temporary technical assistance as instructed by supervisor(s) on other duties of PDCP Arvin Field Station, such as GWSS biological control tasks, facility maintenance, and warehouse operation.
- Request purchase of equipment and materials for GWSS trapping operations.

**B. Non-Essential Functions:**

**Function #1 – Miscellaneous Duties 5%**

- Perform other job-related duties as requested by supervisor.

### **III. Work Environment**

The duties of this position occur primarily outdoors at a variety of agricultural field and nursery locations, including unpaved roads and private property throughout the state under various types of weather conditions. The incumbent typically works outside alone in agricultural field settings inspecting insect traps daily while operating a state motor vehicle. The incumbent will be required to drive, exit and re-enter the work vehicle many times during the workday. Due to nature of primarily outdoor duties, the trapping employees will be exposed to extremes in temperature, moisture, and humidity characteristic to the months of May through October in San Joaquin Valley. The trapping employees are encouraged to wear clothing, hats, and sturdy footwear appropriate for the outdoor weather conditions and work activities. The noise level constantly varies. Terrain encountered varies from smooth and stable to irregular and unstable. At agricultural fields, road and ground surface can be wet or very dry and dusty. Trapping at the agricultural fields requires navigation over plowed, disked, or loose ground. The incumbent may experience exposure to dust, pollen, odor, humidity, and moisture. Incumbents may be required to work with pesticides or work at agricultural fields where pesticides were previously sprayed but only after the restricted-entry interval (REI).

Travel by state vehicle to various locations throughout the state may be required. The incumbent must maintain a valid CA Driver's License and a safe driving record as documented by the Department of Motor Vehicles to operate a state motor vehicle safely and responsibly. (A safe driving record is one free from convictions in the past two years for repeated moving violations, or a single serious violation, such as drunk driving or reckless driving).

The incumbent in this position must be able to maintain focus and work well under extreme time constraints, exercise good judgement, and provide accurate assessment of changing situations to achieve maximum result. Incumbents should perform all duties in a safe manner to prevent workplace injury and illness per PDCP IIPP as well as maintain effective communication skills with coworkers at the workplace to allow collaborative teamwork for primary and other duties.

**IV. Employee's Statement  
(Initial applicable statement)**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read and understand the duties and essential functions of the position.  
I understand Reasonable Accommodation<sup>1</sup> and how it applies to essential functions.  
I can perform the duties of this job without Reasonable Accommodation.

**OR**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read and understand the duties and essential functions of the position.  
I understand Reasonable Accommodation<sup>1</sup> and how it applies to essential functions.  
I will need Reasonable Accommodation to perform one or more of the essential  
functions described in this duty statement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature <sup>2</sup>                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

**CC: Employee  
Official Personnel File  
Supervisor's Drop File**

<sup>1</sup> A reasonable accommodation is an adjustment or modification to a job or workplace that allows qualified employees or prospective employees to perform the essential functions of the job successfully.

<sup>2</sup> Duties of this position are subject to change and may be revised as needed or required. If/when duties change you will be provided a revised duty statement to sign.