

NAME: _____

☒ Current ☐ Proposed

**California Department of Food and Agriculture
Pest Detection/Emergency Projects Branch
Agricultural Technician I (Seasonal)
Duty Statement**

I. Program/Position Identification

The Pest Detection/Emergency Projects Branch is responsible for the early detection and prompt eradication of serious exotic agricultural pests. The Branch accomplishes its mission by conducting a statewide trapping program, staffed by county and state inspectors, for exotic insect pests; by implementing special surveys for significant agricultural pests and plant diseases for which traps are not available; and by providing emergency eradication services using the best available technology. The primary objective of the emergency project component is to quickly and efficiently eradicate incipient infestations of serious agricultural pests, thereby preventing permanent establishment and subsequent spread in California.

Under the supervision of the Agriculture Program Supervisor I, the incumbent will independently perform field or laboratory support duties of average difficulty for various fruit fly delimitation programs, maintain fruit fly trapping routes, coordinate the application of pesticides, maintain pesticide inventory and vehicle fleet, oversee pesticide applications performed by outside vendors, perform fruit removal and tree removal, communicate with the public at educational public meetings, coordinate with other agencies, and perform various insect/disease surveys for targeted pests for the emergency eradication. These activities include working independently and in cooperation with other staff, overseeing treatment activities, preparing written reports, performing quality control inspections for treatment-survey-trapping programs, training new employees, and acting as the back-up trapper/applicator. The incumbent must be able to establish working relationships with those contacted during work and work well under pressure while completing assigned work and meeting required deadlines.

Classification:	Agricultural Technician I (Seasonal)
Working Title:	Agricultural Technician I
License or Other Requirement:	California Driver's License
Position Number:	014-641-0034-982
Division/Branch/DAA:	PHPPS, Pest Detection/Emergency Projects
Location:	Fresno (Fresno County)
Date Prepared:	November 2024
Work Hours/Shift:	40 hours per week
	Monday-Thursday, 0700-1730, with overtime work possible on Fridays and weekends.

II. Essential and Non-Essential Job Functions

A. Essential Functions:

Function #1: Detection and Treatment Activities

45%

- Perform field or staff support duties of average difficulty, to deploy traps, perform visual surveys, or apply control measures for target pests such as, but not limited to various fruit flies, Japanese beetle, and gypsy moth.
- Follow established protocols for trapping, visual survey, or treatment activities and work with outside vendors to ensure compliance with Department policies and procedures, and State laws, rules, and regulations; enforce and implement new procedures or processes with seasonal employees, when necessary.
- Safely drive and operate a state owned/leased/rented vehicle, abiding by all applicable state and local laws traffic laws, to execute required field work.
- Assemble equipment and mix chemicals using the appropriate protocols; assure that the Department is in compliance of all pesticide rules and regulations.
- Work with field staff in solving technical problems such as equipment breakdowns and trap deployment, using effective communication skills, knowledge, manuals, and/or facility operational procedures.
- Prepare and complete accurate and detailed technical reports (daily, weekly, and/or as required) as associated with detection and treatment activities, or other related activities.

Function #2: Documentation of Work Completed

20%

- Prepare and complete accurate and detailed technical reports (daily, weekly, and/or as required) as associated with detection trapping, survey, and treatment activities, or other related activities.
- Carefully documents address, host type and location of samples on property or field by drawing a map and/or using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit and on a Pest and Damage Record (PDR).

Function #3: Training

10%

- Assist lead staff with onboarding new seasonal staff and training on proper host identification, drawing property diagrams, correct trap placement, baiting and application procedures, the biological aspects of the target pest.
- Assist lead staff with onboarding new seasonal staff and training on ground bait application using the solo backpack sprayer, truck mounted ground treatment equipment, soil drench application using the Hudson sprayer, and the use of a pressure gun and other equipment as needed

Function #4: Trapping, Surveyor, Fruit/Tree Removal, and Applicator 10%

- Act as back-up trapper, surveyor, pesticide applicator, and lead fruit/ tree removal when an emergency project becomes necessary or when a crew member is absent. Service traps, apply pesticides, conduct fruit/tree removal, perform visual surveys, document work completed, identify targeted insects, interact with the public, and submit suspect insects.

Function #5: Office Work and Documentation

10%

- Document hours worked and provide to supervisor or lead at the end of each day.
- Submit daily work summaries to supervisor or lead at the end of each day or when requested for reporting purposes.
- Relay information from supervisor or lead to other employees at the office.
- Ensure all formal original documents are complete and have signatures.
- Ensure all time sheets, sign-in sheets, exposure records, and other official documents are sent to supervisor or lead in a timely manner.

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 are primarily conducted outdoors and may be exposed to extreme temperatures and weather, uneven terrain, and various noise levels. The incumbent may work within an office/warehouse environment furnished with a variety of office equipment, which normally consists of desks, tables, chairs, filing cabinets, storage cabinets, filing bins, computers, computer peripherals, phones, answering machines, photocopiers, and fax machines.

The incumbent must have a valid driver's license and have a safe driving record as documented by the Department of Motor Vehicles. (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 must be able to apply pesticides, haul loads of fruit and/or removed trees, perform survey work, and work well under extreme time constraints, exercise good judgment, determine priorities, make appropriate well-thought out decisions, allocate staff and resources to achieve maximum results, maintain focus under conditions of duress, and provide accurate assessment of rapidly changing situations (ex: multiple exotic pest detections requiring multiple operations).

The incumbent will be required to drive, exit and re-enter the work vehicle numerous times during the workday, must possess a valid CA drivers' license and maintain a good standing driving record to operate a state motor vehicle safely and responsibly, be able to apply pesticides. The incumbent must be able to establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted during the course of work,

cooperate with other staff members and leads in completing assigned work, communicate effectively verbally and in writing, with other agencies and the public, and be able to meet required deadlines.

The incumbent will be required to travel by State or rental vehicle to perform field active or other public transportation systems to various locations throughout the state. Must be legally able to rent a car. May work various shifts (pre-dawn and after 6:00 pm), weekends, overtime, and possibly a split shift.

The incumbent may be required to work overtime, weekends, and holidays.

Travel is essential and the incumbent will travel to various locations throughout the state to attend meetings or trainings related to pest detection, and treatment and to assist other offices with detection and treatment efforts is required.

IV. Employee's Statement

(Initial applicable statement)

____ I have read and understand the duties and essential functions of the position. I understand Reasonable Accommodation¹ 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 Accommodation¹ 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 Signature² Date

Supervisor Signature Date

Print Name

Print Name

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

¹ 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.

² 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.