

University of Guelph Ontario Crops Research Centre – Bradford

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT SCOUT (FIELD VEGETABLES)

Location: Ontario Crops Research Centre – Bradford (formerly the Muck Crops Research Station) in the Bradford/Holland Marsh area (Highways 9 & 400). This is approx. 1.25 hours north/east of Guelph. Applicants should be willing to relocate to within commuting distance of the research station.

Objective: To provide students with skills and experience in integrated pest management (IPM) through participation in field vegetable scouting including insect, disease, weed and nutrition monitoring, collection and compilation of data/reports.

Qualifications: A genuine interest in agricultural crop production is desirable. Courses taken at university or college level in agriculture and/or subjects in the biological or environmental sciences would be preferred. Applicant must enjoy working independently, in teams and working outdoors. Knowledge of farming methods would be an asset but not a necessity. Your own vehicle is required. This is excellent experience for anyone planning to pursue a career in crop advisory work, or specifically in vegetable production, including research, pest management, crop protection, consulting or sales. The job would also be of interest to students who enjoy working outdoors and those interested in environmental biology, plant protection or any of the natural sciences.

Job Description: The successful candidates will work in cooperating grower's fields as a part of the pest management scouting team. They will scout grower fields on a twice per week basis using their own vehicle and monitor various crops (onions, carrots, celery, lettuce and cole crops) for insects, diseases, weeds and nutrient deficiencies/toxicities. Scouts will also prepare all necessary traps for each field, prepare reports for growers, and collect samples for pest diagnosis and disease surveys. The information collected by the scouts will be used by the growers to make informed decisions regarding their crops. Prior experience as a scout is not necessary as training is provided. Scouts will be reimbursed for mileage while driving their own vehicle.

Employment Period: May 1 to August 30, 2024

Wages: Based on the Dept of Plant Agriculture summer student pay schedule – 40 hours/week, **plus mileage**

Application Deadline: February 16, 2024

For further information contact:

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Please email cover letters and resumes to Geoff Farintosh @ farinto@uoguelph.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest but wish to advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.