

AGRICULTURAL AND STANDARDS INSPECTOR III

DEFINITION

Under direction, makes inspections and enforces laws and regulations pertaining to the California Food and Agricultural Code, Business and Professions Code, and the California Code of Regulation; performs pest regulation and pest prevention; inspects and tests weighing and measuring devices; verifies consumer transactions and product quality; performs specialized work assignments; provides training for less experienced staff; and performs related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Agricultural and Standards Inspector III is the third and full working journey level in the Agricultural and Standards Inspector series. Positions at this level are distinguished from those in the lower classifications of Agricultural and Standards Inspector I and Agricultural and Standards Inspector II in that incumbents in the Agricultural and Standards Inspector III classification are required to possess eight of the offered Agricultural Inspector and Weights and Measures certification licenses and therefore work in all of the fields requiring State licensing for County agricultural and weights and measures inspection and enforcement.

REPORTS TO

Higher level management or supervisory staff.

CLASSIFICATIONS SUPERVISED

This classification does not exercise supervision over staff.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

The following are the duties performed by employees in this classification. However, employees may perform other related duties at an equivalent level. Each individual in the classification does not necessarily perform all the duties listed.

Inspects fruits, nuts, vegetables, honey, eggs, or other agricultural commodities in markets, packing houses, and storage areas for compliance with regulations related to standards and grades; issues certificates of inspection; may order reconditioning or destruction of produce deemed to be below minimum standards; inspects nurseries for plant pest and diseases; inspects incoming plan shipments for evidence of disease, pests, or noxious weed seeds; inspects transported agricultural commodities to insure that they are free from injurious insects or plant disease; issues pesticide permits and may

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inspect pesticide application to crops; inspects apiaries; examines fields, orchards, roadways, and cultivated areas to determine the location and extent of rodent, weed, bird, insect, predator, and plant disease infestations; controls and eradicates plants, weeds, rodents, birds, and other pests; may certify or specify the treatment of agricultural products as a condition of movement or shipment; inspects seeds and seed shipments for noxious weed seeds; may operate trucks, spray rigs, and other equipment; may apply herbicides for weed and brush control; inspects, tests, and seals commercial weighing and measuring devices; weighs, measures, and counts the contents of packaged commodities to verify the accuracy of labels; inspects and investigates weighmaster licenses; collects petroleum product samples for testing to ensure stated qualities; investigates complaints related to consumer transactions; prepares records and reports of inspections and tests conducted; takes appropriate enforcement actions; performs needed maintenance on equipment; provides information to growers and home-owners regarding pest problems; gathers information for annual crop reports; may provide training for less experienced staff; has responsibility for overseeing assigned programs in the department; performs administrative tasks requiring the use of office automated systems; and performs related duties as required

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; walk, stand, or crouch on narrow, slippery, and erratically moving surfaces; stoop, kneel, bend to pick up or move heavy objects; crawl through various areas requiring moving on hands and knees; walk for long distances; walk on sloped ground/floor and uneven surfaces; normal manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and fax machine.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed both in office and outdoor environments; some exposure to controlled and hazardous substances; some exposure to smoke, gases, and fumes; continuous contact with staff and the public.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Pertinent State and Federal laws and regulations related to the functions of the County Agricultural Commissioner and the Sealer of Weights and Measures.
- Law enforcement powers, procedures, and policies of the County Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures.
- Proper inspection methods and procedures.
- Statistical testing techniques.
- Treatment and control of plant pests and diseases.
- Agricultural practices of County crops.
- Operations, services and activities of an office setting, including computers and assigned software.

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Ability to:

- Interpret and enforce agricultural and weights and measures laws and regulations.
- Impartially perform field inspections and gather a variety of information and data.
- Work independently.
- Provide training for other staff.
- Perform specialized work assignments.
- Gather and maintain information concerning County crops.
- Prepare and maintain records and reports.
- Understand and carry out oral and written directions and policies.
- Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Training and Experience: *Any combination of training which would likely provide the required knowledge and experience is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge and abilities would be:*

Education

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a major in agriculture or a biological science, or other majors as determined by the California Secretary of Food and Agriculture.

Experience

At least two (2) years of inspection and enforcement experience comparable to that of an Agricultural and Standards Inspector II with Amador County.

Special Requirements

Possession of eight County Agricultural Inspector and Weights and Measures licenses.

Possession of an appropriate, current and valid California Driver's License issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles.