



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

**CLASS TITLE: SPECIALTY LAB TECHNICIAN III- ORNAMENTAL
HORTICULTURE**

RANGE 32

SUMMARY:

Under the direction of an assigned supervisor, perform a variety of specialized duties in the operation and maintenance of the ornamental horticulture facilities including a storeroom, retail store, greenhouse, shade house and other growing areas, landscaping, and turf areas. Assist in all plant care activities, lab activities, assist in landscape, design and plant selection; install, maintain, and repair irrigation systems; application of toxic chemicals for pest, disease and weed control and other department functions.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Perform a variety of complex horticultural duties and have technical expertise and experience to identify priorities, set maintenance schedules, and provide work direction to subordinate personnel as assigned.

Assist in operation and maintenance of ornamental horticulture facilities and plant materials including activities related to departmental budget, inventory, sales, and public relations.

Under the direction of an assigned supervisor, design, installation, maintenance, and scheduling of all irrigation systems for container, nursery stock, and landscape areas within the horticulture field site.

Perform a variety of specialized landscape duties including planting, fertilizing, mowing, edging, trimming, pruning, weeding, fertilizing and watering lawns and grounds to maintain an attractive safe and functional outdoor environment that meets established guidelines.

Prepare landscaped areas for planting; assist in determining appropriate plant species based on growth requirements appropriate to the site, soil, climate and preference for drought tolerate plant materials.

Observe and determine the need for fertilizers, soils amendments and mineral additives for all planted areas and fertilizer injectors according to individual seasonal and plant requirements.

Repair and maintain irrigation systems, repair, rebuild or replace sprinkler lines, pipes, valves, sprinklers and other parts as necessary. Design and install new irrigation systems; check sprinkler systems to ensure proper and efficient operation.

Install, maintain, adjust and repair solar and electric irrigation controllers, and control valves; use current irrigation management methods to adjust the amount of water consumption and prevent waste and storm water runoff.

Perform pest, disease and weed monitoring and control inside the greenhouse, outdoors, and regulated agricultural areas. Identify pests, diseases, and weeds to be eradicated; select, mix and apply insecticides, pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers to prevent or control weeds, disease, or insect infestation and stimulate growth; determine appropriate times to spray; follow all applicable laws and regulations associated with pesticide application.

Account for proper use and disposal of all chemicals used and file pesticide use reports as

required by law. Maintain application equipment and personal protective gear in safe and working condition.

Order parts and supplies and required. Maintain a library of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and other departmental records as required.

Assist in the maintenance of supply and equipment inventory.

Preparation of lab materials and tools and providing assistance during labs as requested.

Irrigation of container plants and landscaped areas in the field site.

Safe operation and maintenance of specialized equipment and machines including skid steer loader, Mini excavator, mowers, trencher, rototiller, edger, landscape tools, power mowers, aerators, weed eaters, edgers, trimmers, renovators, sod cutters and other grounds maintenance equipment; water lawns, plants and fields, hoe weeds and rake lawns; transplant and maintain nursery stock; perform general grounds maintenance duties in picking up paper and trash in field site; clean and remove weeds from sidewalks, parking lots and roads; operate truck and other equipment to load, unload and transport materials and various hand powered tools; operate computer, cash register, and other equipment as required.

Maintain currency of qualifications for field site; actively seek and apply current technical landscape and horticulture knowledge for field site; complete continuing education hours to meet Pesticide Regulation Qualified Applicators Certificate Categories B & D renewal.

Mow and maintain lawns and field; trim and prune shrubs, hedges and trees.

SECONDARY FUNCTIONS:

Nursery sales, customer service, and mulch sales as needed.

Assist with communication and activities with other district departments and personnel, vendors, local businesses, high school, governmental agencies, and other outside organizations.

May act as lead in absence of supervisor for subordinate personnel.

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Federal and state laws applicable to outdoor landscape and greenhouse pesticide regulation; such as posting, re-entry time, labeling, and personal protective equipment, proper usage, techniques, and appropriate chemicals for eradication and control.

Methods, equipment and materials used in planting, propagating, cultivating, pruning and caring for plants, flowers, shrubs, lawns and trees, irrigation systems hydraulics, irrigation installation, maintenance and repair, pest, insect, weed identification and control methods.

Health and safety precautions and procedures in handling hazardous chemicals used in horticulture.

Principles and practices of ornamental horticulture.

Proper horticultural practices used in maintenance of landscape plants to include ornamentals, turf, annuals, perennial, and ground covers.

Cultivation of ornamental containerized and greenhouse crops.

Irrigation systems hydraulics and technical skills in installation and maintenance of both spray and micro irrigation applications.

Principles and practices of nursery sales and service.

Materials and tools used in landscape and turf management.

Safe operation and maintenance of specialized horticultural equipment and machines.

Recordkeeping techniques.

Health and safety regulations and procedures.

Applicable laws and regulations related to ornamental horticulture field.

ABILITY TO:

Perform a variety of specialized duties in the operation and maintenance of ornamental horticulture facilities, such as irrigation system installation, maintenance and repair, the application of chemicals for pest, disease, and weed control.

Read blueprints; design and layout landscape and irrigation plans.

Perform general landscape work including mowing, edging and weeding.

Use assigned methods for the control and eradication of pests, weeds, and insects; determine treatment method based upon site and plant conditions.

Apply appropriate horticultural practices and principles of crop care and maintenance, and turf and landscape maintenance.

Determine irrigation system problems and make necessary repairs.

Design, install and maintain landscape and greenhouse irrigation systems.

Determine crop/landscape fertility needs and water requirements.

Provide proper maintenance for plant materials to include pest and disease control, and pruning.

Troubleshoot equipment problems and repair.

Work independently; plan and organize work to meet schedules and guidelines.

Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Operate a variety of specialized horticultural equipment, machines, and office equipment.

Operate a personal computer in an effective manner consistent with requirements of the position.

Add, subtract, multiply, and divide quickly and accurately.

Understand and follow oral and written directions.

Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.

Lift objects weighing up to 50 pounds.

Observe legal and safe driving practices.

Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Two years college level course work or the equivalent with specialized training in ornamental horticulture or a related field. Increasingly responsible horticulture and landscape maintenance experience.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Valid California driver's license and the ability to qualify for District vehicle insurance coverage. California Department of Pesticide Regulation Qualified Applicators, Certificate Categories B & D (landscape maintenance and agriculture).

WORKING CONDITIONS:

Indoor and outdoor environment; subject to adverse weather conditions; subject to lifting up to 50 pounds, lifting, bending, climbing, pushing, standing, and exposure to potentially hazardous chemicals.

** Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. Specifications are **not** intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.*

Est. 9/98 (*Ornamental Horticulture Assistant, Senior*)

Rev. 12/17 (*Specialty Lab Technician III – Ornamental Horticulture*)