

AGRONOMY

AgCareers.com developed career profiles for high demand jobs in the agricultural industry. These career profiles are a helpful resource for students and job seekers to explore new roles in the industry, as well as for career educators.

Agronomist

JOB OVERVIEW

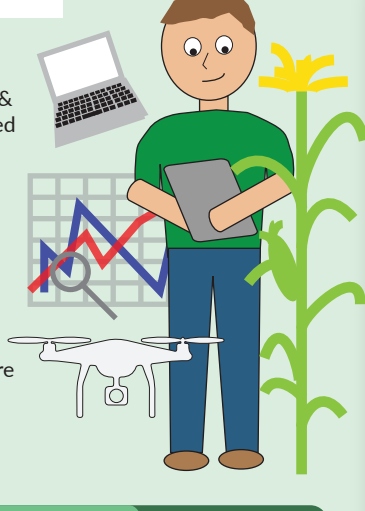
Provide agronomic knowledge & leadership to growers in assigned market

Soil sample fields, manage field trials, plant physiology, and irrigation practices

Scout fields for weed, insects, disease & nutrition issues

Gather, compile, analyze & interpret test results and prepare progress reports

JOB OUTLOOK



EDUCATION NEEDED

Bachelor's or Master's degree in agronomy or related field; Certified Crop Advisor (CCA)

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, chemistry, computer courses, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Medium to large-scale farms, crop & seed production companies, crop protection companies, research firms, government

Crop Advisor

JOB OVERVIEW

Maintain close relationships with clients & regularly scout their fields for problems that may arise during the growing season

Make recommendations on things ranging from seed to fertilizer and from pest management to disease treatment

Provide trainings to growers in your area & make recommendations on actions that may need to be taken when problems arise

JOB OUTLOOK



EDUCATION NEEDED

Bachelor's degree in agronomy, soils, plant or crop science; Pest Control Advisor license and CCA preferred

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, statistics, accounting, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Agricultural retailers or consulting firms; may work part- or full-time, and may also be self-employed

Crop Scout

JOB OVERVIEW

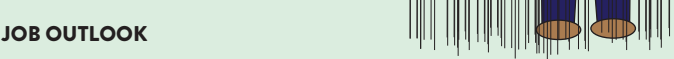
Inspect farmers' fields & record weed, insect, disease & other observations

Conduct root digs in order to look for corn rootworm or other root-eating pests

Perform yield assessments & look for potential robbers of yield

Communicate your findings & make recommendations based on them

JOB OUTLOOK



EDUCATION NEEDED

No training required though a crop science degree or crop scout training is helpful

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, English, chemistry, mathematics, environmental science

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Crop consultants, ag retailers, seed/chemical companies; can also be a side or independent job

Crop Systems Specialist

JOB OVERVIEW

Work to improve how a business or company manages & utilizes data of seed or crop production processes

Coordinate various data collection initiatives including in-field data & plant performance-based metrics

Simplify various data streams for use in visualization & decision-making

Support & make modifications & improvement in systems currently utilized by the team

JOB OUTLOOK



EDUCATION NEEDED

Bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering, chemical engineering, agribusiness, or closely related field

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, plant science, business & computer courses, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Seed & crop production businesses and companies

Irrigation Specialist

JOB OVERVIEW

Provide system recommendations to customers (golf courses, farmers, landscapers, etc.)

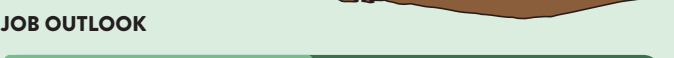
Troubleshoot any problems that may arise with system

Prepare ground for installation of irrigation lines

Design & read blueprints in order to lay out or locate irrigation valves and wiring

Install pipes, wiring & valves

JOB OUTLOOK



EDUCATION NEEDED

High school diploma; degree in turfgrass management, ag engineering, landscape architecture beneficial

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, business, Spanish, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Landscaping and produce companies, golf courses, irrigation system companies, or you may be self-employed

Row Crop Producer / Farmer

JOB OVERVIEW

Plant & harvest traditional row crops

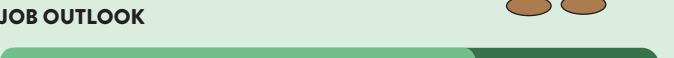
Purchase seed & operate farm equipment

Perform tillage tasks in both spring & fall seasons

Scout & inspect crops for need of pesticide, fungicide or herbicide; spray as needed

Harvest crops once ready; manage grain & harvest inventory

JOB OUTLOOK



EDUCATION NEEDED

High school diploma; degree in agribusiness, plant science or agriculture may be helpful

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, ag mechanics, plant science, business, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

May be self-employed on own farm or for large farms and ag companies that produce crops

Seed Production Agronomist

JOB OVERVIEW

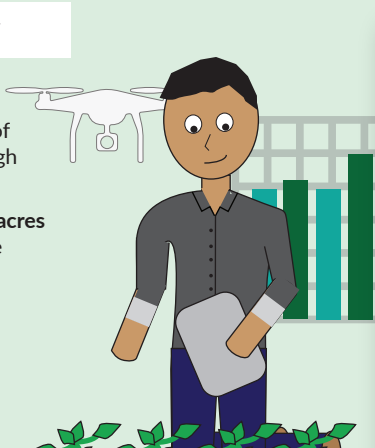
Manage & execute all phases of seed production to produce high quality seeds

Contract required production acres with seed growers to maximize yield, minimize freight costs & deliver seed

Develop & maintain a grower evaluation system to drive increased yields & qualities

Perform & coordinate seed logistics activities to ensure accurate records

JOB OUTLOOK



EDUCATION NEEDED

Bachelor's or Master's in agronomy or related field

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, chemistry, computer courses, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Medium to large-scale seed producers and companies

Weed Scientist

JOB OVERVIEW

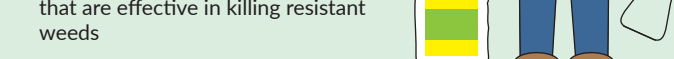
Conduct research to diagnose problems in the field or establish weed management systems

Offer suggestions on weed control methods to landowners both through chemicals, cover crops & mechanical means

Develop, recommend or sell weed control products

Work to find chemical formulations that are effective in killing resistant weeds

JOB OUTLOOK



EDUCATION NEEDED

Master's or PhD in weed science, ecology, plant physiology, agronomy or soil science

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, chemistry, computer courses, environmental science, public speaking

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Universities & extension, agricultural chemical companies, nonprofits, research companies, consultants

PROFESSIONALS IN AGRONOMY CAN EXPECT TO EARN AN AVERAGE OF \$61,900 PER YEAR