CLASS TITLE:	**AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIAN**	**CLASS CODE: 2045**
DEPARTMENT:	**FARM ADVISOR**	**FLSA STATUS: N**
REPORTS TO:	**FARM ADVISOR**	**DATE: 10/99**

JOB SUMMARY AND DISTINGUISHING FEATURES:

Under general direction, performs work in support of farm advisors, campus-based researchers, and program extension specialist in conducting research and extension education programs in the fields of agriculture and natural resources; support includes collecting and analyzing data and the dissemination of information and research findings to the public through meetings, classes, service calls, and publications.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS: (All responsibilities may not be performed by all incumbents.)

Assists farm advisors in conducting field and laboratory research, including: maintaining pear and grape test plots; collecting field data; collecting soil, water, plant and insect specimens for diagnostic purposes; analyzing data and collected samples; applying unregistered pesticides, fertilizers and other treatments; and operating farm equipment and machinery, laboratory and field research equipment.

Collects, monitors and analyzes insect pest damage and diseases of major local crops.

Collects weather data, degree day accumulations for specific pests, and compiles data utilizing computer program(s).

Coordinates and follows up on research projects and plots for absent campus-based specialist and program specialists.

Offers public services in the form of education and technical advice, including: answering public service calls regarding gardening, small farm, vertebrate and invertebrate pest management, performing plant and insect identification, diagnosis and suggested treatment.

Offers in-house technical support to farm advisors including: creating slide presentations, editing manuscripts for journal and UC publications, manipulating and organizing data, organizing and filing university publications, and assisting in the preparation of programs presented to the public.

Creates newsletters and flyers.

Carries out lead worker responsibilities including: training in job skills, assigning and directing work, making recommendations in performance appraisal, and reporting problems to supervisor.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT USED:

Microscope	Pruning Shears	Ladder(s)	ISCO Water Sampler
Reach Poles	Laboratory Equipment	Refractometer	Temperature Monitoring Device
Saws			

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

Education and Experience:

Associate's degree or equivalent from an accredited two-year college or technical school; and,

Two to three years of progressively responsible related experience; or,

Any combination of education, training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the essential functions of the job.

Licenses and Certifications:

Pesticide Applicator Certificate

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of:

Local agriculture crops and practices, including varieties grown, irrigation, fertilization, livestock and grazing management.

Natural resources including water quality and resources, plants, soils, trees, forests, wildlife and local ecology.

Local climate and micro-climates.

Local vertebrate and invertebrate pests and pest management.

All computer applications and hardware related to performance of the essential functions of the job.

Recordkeeping, report preparation, filing methods and records management techniques.

Standard business arithmetic, including percentages and decimals.

Applicable state, federal and local ordinances, laws, rules and regulations.

Skill in:

Researching, compiling, and summarizing a variety of informational and statistical data and materials.

Applying logical thinking to solve problems or accomplish tasks; to understand, interpret and communicate complicated policies, procedures and protocols.

Using mathematics.

Preparing clear and concise reports, correspondence and other written materials.

Mental and Physical Abilities:

Ability to read, analyze and interpret professional periodicals and journals, technical procedures and government regulations.

Ability to speak effectively before public groups and respond to questions.

Ability to work with mathematical concepts such as probability and statistical inference.

Ability to interpret a variety of technical instructions with abstract and/or concrete variables.

Ability to define problems, collect data, establish facts and draw valid conclusions.

Ability to perform work and solve problems independently with minimal supervision and often alone.

While performing the essential functions of this job the employee is frequently required to stand, walk, sit, use hands to finger, handle, or feel, reach with hands and arms, climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl, speak and hear, and lift and/or move up to 50 pounds.

While performing the essential functions of this job the employee is occasionally required to lift and/or move up to 100 pounds.

Working Conditions:

While performing the essential functions of this position the employee is frequently exposed to wet or humid conditions, outdoor weather conditions, fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, work near moving mechanical parts, risk of electrical shock, and work in high precarious places.

The incumbent's working conditions are typically moderately quiet.

file: agrtech.26055