

Job Opening: Intensive Greens and Protected Agriculture Manager

Elmwood Stock Farm, Georgetown KY USA

Start Date: March 2021

Monday-Friday, full time, year-round with weather flexibility

Elmwood Stock Farm is expanding production of salad mix, baby greens and other intensively produced crops. Using the farm's system of growing that requires weekly planting, harvesting and daily care, the intensive production position is tasked with producing these crops in cooperation with the farm owners, production manager, part-time help, and harvest team. This is a year-round position that involves hand tools, walk-behind tractors, and small tractors in intensive production of crops with rapid turnaround utilizing high tunnels, low tunnels, and no tunnel techniques.

Elmwood Stock Farm is a family-owned farming business located in Scott County, KY. The farm covers 550 acres and grows a wide assortment of organic vegetables. Additional production includes row crops, hay for livestock, grass-fed and -finished beef cattle and sheep, along with pasture-raised pigs, chickens, and heritage breed turkeys. The farmland is USDA Certified Organic, as are the crops, the animals and the products produced. This is unique for the area and we are proud to maintain a healthy place to work while producing nutritious farm foods for our customers.

Markets for vegetables include an 800+ member CSA farm share program, farmers markets, restaurants and small stores.

Required Skills and Attributes

- Consistent, reliable attention to detail.
- Positive attitude and desire to meet high expectations.
- Ability and willingness to collaborate with others and ability to excel in a team work environment.
- Ability to manage others around a specific task achieving efficiency and quality results.
- Good communication skills of planning, executing and evaluating a task.
- Good organizational skills and ability to follow existing processes.
- Ability to work alone at times while maintaining efficiency and staying on task.
- Ability to work for periods of time in a highly dynamic and fast-paced system.
- Ability to follow directions, ask questions when needed, and complete a task as directed.
- Appreciation for quality and recognition of details that determine it.
- Ability to lift and carry loads of up to 50 lbs.
- Valid driver's license.
- Adherence to company employee manual and terms of employment policy.
- Technological skills in order to use both hand and powered tillage and seeding equipment, along with computerized record keeping formats.
- Ability to work in all conditions directly affected by weather, including rainfall, heat, humidity, snow and cold.
- Specifically, this position requires some flexibility of schedule with willingness to adjust schedule every week around weather to get the week's jobs completed.
- Problem solver, not problem finder.

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Job Responsibilities

- Prepare beds, tilling, stale seed bedding – weekly preparation of the future beds.
- Sow seed and transplant.
- Water, weed, and protect until harvest.
- Coordinate with production team and harvest with help and/or harvest team.
- Repeat similar processes weekly.
- Train, manage, and oversee part-time helper/intern.
- Utilize plastic sheeting, hoops, row cover, and frost blankets to prepare beds and protect crops.
- Operate walk behind tractors, hand planters and seeders, flamer, string trimmer, mower, small tractor.
- Maintain weed free and insect free plant beds, and water using timers, sprinklers, and drip.
- Assist with the production of organic field crops as needed.
- Manage the watering and daily venting, heating, and row covers inside high tunnels throughout winter.
- Assist with post-harvest washing and packing as needed.
- Repair and maintain tools, equipment, and irrigation.
- Be knowledgeable about best practices for a wide range of vegetables.
- Be trained in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and maintain compliance with food safety standards.
- Be trained and become knowledgeable of Organic Certification and maintain compliance from seed to harvest.

Compensation and Benefits

- Opportunity to join the dynamic Elmwood Stock Farm team, and exposure to all aspects of row crop production, post-harvest produce handling, and marketing through CSA and farmers markets.
- Gain experience working in the commercial production of USDA Certified Organic vegetables and other organic products.
- Develop the skills and experience in all aspects of local, organic food production.
- Achieve satisfaction from working with your hands and growing organic foods.
- Be part of a team that is performing meaningful work providing nutritious, wholesome and safe food to individuals and families that are appreciative and dependent on what you do each day to feed them.
- Access to free organic vegetables, discounted grass-fed and pasture raised, organic meats and eggs.
- Chef-prepared home-cooked lunch each workday.
- Paid sick leave.
- Compensation dependent on professional experience in the range \$14 to \$15 per hour.