

Vegetable Production Manager

Elmwood Stock Farm, Georgetown KY USA

Start Date: October 2022

Full-time, Year-round

Position reports to: Farm Owner

Looking for the perfect farming opportunity? You just found it!

The opportunity exists to get your feet on the ground, hands in the soil, backside in the tractor seat, nose in a laptop, and be coached by a mentor, while you organize, plan and delegate to grow the best organic food in the world! Take on the challenge of growing more than fifty different vegetables. Be provided the tools, equipment, growing methods, and support team to be successful in CSA and market farming.

This is a full-time, year-round position. The Production Manager is the primary farmer responsible for growing vegetables using row-crop and intensive bed production methods on 40 certified organic acres, including high tunnels and greenhouses. Assisted by year-round and seasonal co-workers, this farming position uses ecologically sound practices to produce nutrient dense, healthful foods for an 800-member CSA and year-round farmers markets.

Responsibilities

- Seed, transplant, and cultivate row crops using tractors and implements.
- Plan, coordinate and oversee crop production in intensive beds, low tunnels, and high tunnels using walk-behind tractor and implements, hand tools, and an experienced support team.
- Greenhouse production of transplants with assistance from experienced growers.
- Lead and manage an experienced production team that ranges from 1 to 5 people in peak season.
- Maintain timely tillage and stale seedbed preparation experienced, seasonal help.
- Manage plant disease, pests, and irrigation through scouting, drip irrigation system, overhead traveler irrigation system, row cover, and successive planting.
- Collaborate with harvest coordinator, sales team, and fulfillment team on crop scheduling, anticipated harvest dates, daily harvesting, and yields.
- Maintain and oversee maintenance of accurate records.
- Safely operate tractors, trucks, and various implements; supported with training.
- Learn and follow routine equipment maintenance procedures, along with minor repair, report damage and repair needs.
- Be prepared to build knowledge about best production and harvest 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.
- Be motivated to adapt to changing roles as this position develops over seasons.

Required Skills and Attributes

- Positive attitude and desire to meet high expectations.

- Be a self-starter with the ability to multitask.
- Be dependable, reliable, consistent, and on time ready to work.
- Ability to lead a team, assign and ensure tasks are completed; motivate, inspire, and get results.
- Possess excitement for being trained to improve management skills.
- Excellent verbal and written communications skills.
- Good interpersonal skills and active problem-solving skills.
- Ability to use a plan, with flexibility to respond to changing circumstances and expectations.
- Able to maintain a polite, empathic, and professional attitude and manner.
- Ability to listen actively and accurately take in and record basic information simultaneously.
- Ability to work alone, purposefully, with a positive attitude.
- Technological skills: capable of using computer/tablet/smartphone with Google & Microsoft Office applications for real-time updates in the field.
- Reliable attention to detail on a consistent basis.
- Good organizational skills.
- Ability to recognize quality and strive for excellence in product quality.
- Ability to lift and carry loads of up to 50 lbs.
- Ability to work in all weather conditions, including precipitation, heat, humidity, and cold.
- Driver's license valid in KY, or consistent and reliable method of getting to and from work.
- Experience using tractors, implements, walk-behind tractors, and hand tools.
- Adherence to company employee manual and terms of employment policy.
- Communicate in English.
- Communicate with Spanish speakers (an ability to communicate in Spanish is a plus, but not required as translation apps, and other tools can be utilized.)
- Specifically, this position requires some flexibility of schedule with willingness to adjust schedule around weather to get each week's jobs completed. Potentially the production manager could work fewer hours in winter months and more hours in the summer months.

Compensation and Benefits

- Health insurance and workers compensation insurance.
- Retirement with employer match.
- Paid time off.
- Chef-prepared home-cooked lunch each workday.
- Mini size CSA produce share.
- 10-50% discount off eggs, meats, and surplus items.
- Salary \$45,000.
- 60-day performance review.
- Professional development.
- Satisfaction of performing meaningful work providing nutritious, wholesome, and safe food to individuals and families that are appreciative and dependent on what you do each day.
- Gain experience working in the commercial production and sales of USDA Certified Organic products.

Elmwood Stock Farm

859-621-0755, <https://elmwoodstockfarm.com>