

Vegetable Crops and Small Farms Advisor (Applied Research and Extension) Serving Riverside and Imperial Counties

Position Overview

Location Headquarters. Riverside County-Coachella Valley Office

Purpose. The CE Advisor will develop and conduct research and extension programs focused on vegetable crop production in Riverside and Imperial Counties.

Primary program areas include (1) the commercial vegetable crop production and (2) the small scale and minority crop production of the Coachella Valley, the Palo Verde Valley of Riverside County, and Imperial County as well as the limited vegetable production in Western Riverside.



The CE Advisor will support growers and processors of such high-valued vegetable crops with problem solving, field consultations, and applied research. The goal of the research program should be to improve yields and production efficiency. As this region is the major supplier of cool-season vegetables in the winter, a focus on disease and pest management research is important to remain competitive on a statewide and national basis. Water use efficiency and proper fertilization, and management are important issues to growers and deserve future research to meet state regulatory requirements.

This is an exciting opportunity to have meaningful impacts in the communities of Riverside and Imperial Counties and throughout California. The CE Advisor will efficiently and effectively support current and emerging issues that benefit local growers and across the state. Opportunities abound for research and extension partnerships that link consumers and resource professionals with relevant science-based information and promote effective problem solving. The advisor will also join a team of highly motivated UCCE colleagues who are passionate about their work, and are dedicated to making a difference within the communities and throughout California. The potential for collaborative projects within the UC ANR system is nearly limitless.

Counties of Responsibility. This position is focused on vegetable crops (over 22 major crops including melons) in Riverside and Imperial Counties. There is an opportunity to work collaboratively across counties.

Reporting Relationship: The CE Advisor serves under the administrative guidance of the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) County Director for Riverside County with input from the UCCE Imperial County Director.

Required Qualifications

Education: A minimum of a Master's degree in crop science, plant physiology, plant pathology, agronomy or horticulture is required at the time of appointment. Relevant vegetable crop experience and a demonstrated understanding of soil science, irrigation and nutrient and pest management is required.

Desired Qualifications

- Previous Extension experience is desired.
- A pesticide applicator license or a private applicator license will be useful.

Skills Required

To be successful, the CE Advisor requires skills in the following area:

Technical Competence and Impact

The candidate should have a deep understanding of key concepts related to vegetable crops, soil science, irrigation and pest management and be able to design and implement a program that leads to positive changes and impact within the community and beyond.



Communication

Demonstrated excellence in written, oral and interpersonal communication skills.

Collaboration, Teamwork and Flexibility

Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as a team member with others. Able to adapt as circumstances warranted. Promote diversity, equity and inclusion.

Lifelong Learning

Demonstrated commitment to ongoing self-improvement - both professionally and as a person.

Learn more about Skills and Areas of Programmatic Review at:

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/319460.pdf>

About UC ANR

The University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) consists of a network of scientists and educators working in partnership across the California. We are committed to developing and supporting healthy food systems, healthy environments, healthy communities, and healthy Californians. UC ANR administers UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE), which is responsible for program development and delivery in the counties throughout the state of California.

Learn more about

- UC ANR at <https://UCANR.edu>
- UC ANR in Riverside and Imperial Counties at <http://ceriverside.ucanr.edu/> and <http://ceimperial.ucanr.edu>
- Our Strategic Initiatives <http://ucanr.edu/sites/StrategicInitiatives/>

- Our Public Value statements at [https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/2016-2020 Strategic Plan/Goal 5 Prioritize programs and services/Public values statement/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/2016-2020%20Strategic%20Plan/Goal%205%20Prioritize%20programs%20and%20services/Public%20values%20statement/)
- Affirmative Action: Further to the above, advisors are expected to share and exhibit UC ANR's commitment to affirmative action. Learn more of UC ANR Affirmative Action policy: [http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Diversity/Affirmative Action/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Diversity/Affirmative%20Action/)

Salary & Benefits

Salary: The beginning salary will be in the Assistant CE Advisor Rank and commensurate with applicable experience and professional qualifications. For information regarding CE Advisor series salary scales, please refer to: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/307368.pdf>.

Benefits: The University of California offers comprehensive benefits including vacation, sick leave, and approximately thirteen paid holidays per year. This position is eligible for sabbatical leave privileges as per the terms of University policy and is eligible for indefinite status.

For more information, refer to the UC Benefits website at: <http://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/>.

How to Apply

If interested in this position, please visit: <https://recruit.ucanr.edu/> and choose "applicants" (refer to position #20-07)

Closing Date: To assure full consideration, application packets must be received by **June 26, 2020**.

Questions?

Contact Tatiana Avoce; email: tavoce@ucanr.edu

Applicants may wish to explore the UC Davis Services for International Students and Scholars web page at <https://siss.ucdavis.edu/> as a resource.

University of California Cooperative Extension

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status.

As of January 1, 2014, ANR is a smoke- and tobacco-free environment in which smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of unregulated nicotine products (e-cigarettes), is strictly prohibited.