



State of West Virginia
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Gus R. Douglass, Commissioner

Janet L. Fisher
Deputy Commissioner

Steve Hannah
Deputy Commissioner

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Title: Chemist 1 – Ag Materials
Salary: \$29,000 - \$30,000
Headquarters: Gus R. Douglass Agricultural Center at Guthrie
Charleston, WV
FLSA: Non-Exempt
Closing Date: Open Until Filled

**Send Application
And Resume to:**

Herma Johnson, Division Director
West Virginia Department of Agriculture
1900 Kanawha Blvd. East, E-28
Charleston, WV 25305
304-558-2208 (Phone)
304-5583594 (Fax)

Nature of Work: An employee in this position performs administrative and professional work for the Agricultural Materials Laboratory by performing analyses of commercial animal feed, fertilizer, agricultural lime and environmental samples. The employee will also perform related work in the maintenance of a quality assurance program for the Agricultural Materials Laboratory.

Examples of Work Performed:

- Develops and maintains quality assurance measures to assure that analytical methods are under control.
- Develops and utilizes methods consistent with the laboratories' equipment for analyses of commercial feed, fertilizer, agricultural lime and environmental samples.
- Analyzes and interprets test results in order to assist in the administration of laws, regulations or specifications relating to the chemical composition of the materials analyzed.
- Performs chemical analyses in accordance with scientific principles and techniques as determined by a supervisor.
- Determines the type and extent of testing required to ascertain the quality of samples submitted for analyses, guided by the principles and techniques of analytical chemistry and by the methods devised by professional and testing organizations in developing the necessary laboratory procedures.
- Questionable identifications or finds on work are checked by a supervisor.
- Performs related work as required, such as assisting other division chemists as needed.
- Prepares official reports and may be called upon to testify before the court or the Commissioner.
- Other duties as assigned

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of the principles, practices and procedures of organic and inorganic chemistry.

- Knowledge of composition and significant properties of materials and substances used or tested by the State.
- Skill in the use of complex laboratory instruments and equipment commonly used in analytical laboratories.
- Ability to prepare analytical reports and to organize and present scientific information in a clear and concise manner.
- Ability to understand and to follow oral and written instructions, formulas and charts.
- Ability to do original research and devise new methods of testing.
- Knowledge of computerized LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) is useful

Minimum Training and Experience Requirements:

Training: Graduation from an accredited 4-year college or university with a major in chemistry or related physical science.

Substitution: Graduation from an accredited 4-year college or university with a minor in chemistry or related physical science and at least one year of experience in carrying out technical work in a laboratory.

Experience: One year of experience in carrying out technical work in a chemical laboratory.

Substitution: Graduate study in chemistry or related laboratory science may be substituted on a year-for-year basis for the required experience.

