

AGRONOMY SERVICES SUPERVISOR

KIND OF WORK

Supervisory and regulatory work involving the administration of all laws, rules and regulations relating to the programs assigned to the Division of Agronomy Services by the Commissioner of Agriculture.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Employees in this class have charge of and are responsible for the planning and execution of programs for enforcement of the Minnesota Economic Poison and Devices Law; the Minnesota Commercial Feed Law; the Minnesota Commercial Fertilizer Law; the Minnesota Seed Law; the Minnesota Screenings Law; the Minnesota Spraying and Dusting Law and the Minnesota Weed Control Law.

Responsibility includes the supervision of the inspection activities of the district agronomy services inspectors and of the sampling procedures which they follow, including the enforcement and interpretation of State and Federal Seed Laws, and are responsible for the supervision of Weed Control and Eradication programs. They are also responsible for directing and supervising all activities of the State Seed Laboratory, including final responsibility for accuracy of determinations made therein.

Direction is given to the county agricultural inspectors and other local inspectors in compliance with the requirements of the laws relating to those individuals. Policy direction and administrative supervision are received from and work is reviewed by the Director of the Division of Agronomy Services.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Directs a statewide program covering a particular area or section of responsibility.

Coordinates the activities of field staff in conduct of inspections and disposition of violations.

Directs and reviews the work of Agronomy Services Inspectors through analysis of reports and periodic meetings.

Evaluates laboratory analyses in terms appropriate to their respective areas.

Reviews evidence obtained relative to the offering for sale or distribution of illegal products.

Reviews the results obtained from the Minnesota Seed Laboratory insofar as the accuracy of the determinations are concerned.

Organizes and conducts educational meetings for the Agronomy Services Inspectors, County Agronomy Inspectors and other agencies and groups concerned with the laws and regulations administered by the Division.

Administers on-the-job training to Agronomy Services Inspectors during the course of periodic visits in the field.

Recommends appropriate changes in laws, regulations, definitions and standards to the Director of the Division and to the Commissioner.

Confers with professional and research personnel regarding problems related to the particular area of responsibility.

Supervises the licensing, issuing of permits and the registration of products in accordance with legal requirements.

Promotes the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and Division of Agronomy Services by participation in conferences and preparation and attendance of exhibits at the Minnesota State Fair and other events.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Thorough knowledge of agricultural seeds and of noxious weed seeds which may be found in seed mixtures.

Thorough knowledge of all phases of seed testing, including rules and regulations, laboratory techniques, equipment and terminology involved.

Thorough knowledge of state and federal seed and weed statutes.

Thorough knowledge of noxious weeds found in the state.

Thorough knowledge of the types of weeds found in the various areas of the state and of agricultural chemicals and other methods which may be used for weed control.

Thorough knowledge of commercial feed ingredients, additives and their use.

Thorough knowledge of commercial fertilizers and their applications.

Considerable knowledge of principles and nomenclature of chemistry as it relates to animal nutrition and fertilizer.

Working knowledge of the standards, definitions and interpretations of Federal Food and Drug regulations relating to antibiotics and other feed additives.

Working knowledge of the proper procedure for the production, processing, and labeling of certified seeds.

Working knowledge of seed cleaning machinery and the proper procedures for seed cleaning.

Ability to:

Ability to plan and direct the work of and instruct personnel under their supervision.

Ability to interpret seed and weed statutes as they apply to vendors, farmers and others engaged either in the sale or exchange of agricultural seeds or in weed control programs.

Ability to supervise the gathering of evidence for the prosecution of violators and to determine administrative policies to be followed on prosecutions.

Ability to carry out a statewide program of law enforcement in a technical field.

Ability to work closely with members of industry, governmental agencies, governmental officials and the general public.

Est.: 07/09/63

Rev.: 03/21/68

Ckd.: 08/92

T.C.:

Former Title(s):