AGRONYM DISTRICT COORDINATOR, SENIOR

KIND OF WORK

Advanced level regulatory service and enforcement of State and Federal laws relating to pesticides, fertilizers, commercial feeds, seeds, and nonxious weeds within a district of the State.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Employees at this level provide full regulatory service to the agricultural community within a district. Service includes surveillance and inspection measures for enforcement of both State and Federal laws for agricultural products used in crop and livestock production. Positions at this level outline procedures and develop relationships to effectively direct the work of local agricultural inspectors and expand their range of activities in weed control, seed regulations, pesticide inspection and general assistance in agronomy service programs. Employees in this class provide instruction to local inspectors and regulated industries through meetings, consultation, and other communications. They may train and direct newer district staff.

Positions at this level have considerable authority for independent enforcement action. Employees are responsible for directing the emphasis made within the district for each of the division's five main regulatory programs. Supervision is received from Agronomy Services Supervisors. General administrative and policy guidance is received from the Division Director.

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

Organizes and directs five district regulatory programs.

Trains and supervises County Agricultural Inspectors and Township/Municipal Weed Inspectors and Nonxious Weed Law Enforcement, seed sampling, and in other required duties of those positions, including pesticide applicator equipment inspection.

Assists County Boards and Commissioners in selecting qualified personnel for County Agricultural Inspector positions.

Plans and conducts county meetings for Agronomy Services regulatory programs.

Inspects feed manufacturing establishments, including a systematic sampling of products and distribution for laboratory analysis.

Performs FDA inspections under the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act when commissioned by that agency.
Obtains and inspects samples of seed growers, processors, and distributors.

Performs USDA authorized investigations including inspection of records and obtaining samples in the enforcement of the Federal Seed Act.

Inspects fertilizer blending plants, and systematically samples products for laboratory analysis.

Conducts pesticide establishment and marketplace inspections, including systematic sampling, for laboratory analysis, the products and distribution.

Reviews Restricted Use Pesticide distribution records and Structural Pest Control Operator's records.

Monitors pesticide applicator testing for licensing purposes.

Investigates all consumer complaints in various areas and responsibilities.

Acts as lead agency representative at pesticide and fertilizer accident sites.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Thorough knowledge of Minnesota Statutes and Rules relating to weed control, seeds, commercial feeds, fertilizers and pesticides.

Thorough knowledge of legal authorities and application of enforcement action.

Thorough knowledge of requirements for legal evidence and case preparation.

Thorough knowledge of identification and control of nonxious and economically important weeds in Minnesota.

Thorough knowledge of precautions and safety principles for handling and storage of pesticides, fertilizers, feeds, and related commodities.

Considerable knowledge of principles and procedures of commercial crop and livestock production.
Considerable knowledge of processing and practices of agribusiness firms for production and marketing of seed, fertilizer, feed and pesticides.

Considerable knowledge of commercial feed ingredients, including additives.

Considerable knowledge of plant food nutrients.

Considerable knowledge of pesticide classifications, uses, and methods of application.

Considerable knowledge of Federal laws and regulations relating to seed, medicated feed, and pesticides adequate to obtain Federal Agency Commissioning or authority.

Ability to:

Proven ability to discuss legal responsibilities and obligations with individuals and groups, and to secure cooperation for enforcement duties.

Proven ability to issue accurate and easily understood enforcement orders, instructions, and work reports.

Proven ability to effectively work with inspectors, technical specialists, supervisors, directors and administrators of the department.

Proven ability to evaluate problem situations or emergencies, and take independent action.

Ability to plan, organize, and conduct public meetings.

Ability to describe crop damage in order to assist in determining the possibility of a violation of the Minnesota Pesticide Control Law.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Qualified by training and experience for Federal Commissions from the FDA, USDA, and EPA required in the enforcement of federal feed, seed, and pesticide laws.