

PLANT INDUSTRY INSPECTOR 1

KIND OF WORK

Journeyman level field inspection and/or compliance enforcement work in a specialized plant industry area.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Employees of this class function as specialist in the inspection of apiaries, seed potatoes or rust producing barberry bushes. In accordance with prescribed policies, regulations and standards established by the USDA and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, they are responsible for inspection and enforcement of laws and rules pertinent to the particular plant industry depending on the specialty they may be responsible for field inspection, application of control measures, issuance of quarantines, or stoppage of sale. Work is assigned and reviewed by a supervisor in the specialty area. Review may also be completed by analysis of written reports, telephone communication and spot reinspection.

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

APIARY

Opens and inspects colonies of bees for bee diseases and/or abnormal condition of larval or adult stages of honey bees.

Contacts, informs and instructs apiary owners having bee disease problems on methods of control or other measures needed to comply with state apiary laws.

Inspects and certifies colonies for interstate certification.

Maintains records and writes reports.

Performs related work as required.

BARBERRY CONTROL

Makes inspections of fields and woodlands for barberry plants.

Determines whether bushes are susceptible or nonsusceptible.

Destroys plants in a safe way with the proper chemicals.

Notifies property owners that the area in question will be examined for barberry.

Gives information and advise on the spread of rust to interested parties.

Collects rust spores from infected barberries, range and certain grasses and submits to the USDA Rust Laboratory.

Performs related work as required.

SEED POTATO

Determines quality, grade and condition of Minnesota grown farm produce at the shipping point.

Writes state or federal-state certificates of inspection.

Inspects potato fields by taking representative counts of plants, noting varietal mixtures, plant diseases and insects injuries and computing the percentage of each.

Completes field inspection reports.

Notes and records car or truck identification, names of shippers and receivers, addresses, brands, labels, sizes, method of loading, order of load, condition of vehicle, and other pertinent and distinguishing marks.

Assists in collecting and preparing tuber samples for southern test plots.

Gives information and advise to potato growers and others on seed selection, cultural practices and control methods.

Secures facts in connection with violations discovered in the process of inspection.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Appropriate agricultural laws, rules and regulations.

Appropriate federal laws, rules, regulations and standards.

The principles of plant pathology, entomology and chemical analysis.

Ability to:

Secure facts through observation and inspection.

Prepare legible, clear, concise, complete and accurate reports.

Establish and maintain satisfactory working relationships with growers, shippers, industry and public officials.

NECESSARY SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Employees engaged in shipping point inspection must qualify for a Federal shipping point license before they can assign a Federal or state grade to produce.

Est.: 6/80

Rev.:

T.C.:

Former Title(s):