

FERTILIZER ADMINISTRATOR

This is administrative and technical work in the enforcement of state laws and regulations regarding the composition, quality, labeling, registration and sale of fertilizers in the Department of Agriculture's Plant Industry Division.

Employee administers all provisions of the North Carolina Fertilizer Law, the Lime and Landplaster Act and the Soil Additives Act, which regulate the quality of fertilizers, liming materials and landplaster sold in the State. Employee plans, develops and administers a statewide fertilizer regulatory program; establishes program objectives, goals and priorities; develops requests for funding, personnel, equipment and supplies. Responsibilities include developing, implementing and evaluating programs for regulating fertilizer in North Carolina; drafting proposed changes in the laws, rules and regulations; providing information concerning the fertilizer program to various organizations, industry and commodity groups and the general public; and providing technical expertise to field personnel. Employee evaluates, certifies and approves or rejects applications for fertilizer registration in regards to approved ratios and grades, materials used and guarantees made. Employee evaluates and assesses stop sales and penalties on deficient products in accordance with laws and regulations; negotiates settlements between the manufacturer, Department of Agriculture and the consumer; investigates public complaints; counsels with industry to help resolve problems; and counsels other state agencies in regards to fertilizer needs. Employee receives samples from field investigators and supervises checking to ascertain that the product is registered for sale in North Carolina; and reviews laboratory results. Work requires considerable contact with other control officials, the media, farm organizations, the fertilizer industry and the general public; and participation on state, regional and national committees and organizations. Work is performed independently under the general supervision of the Plant Industry Division Director and is evaluated in terms of the effectiveness of the fertilizer program. Work may include other duties as assigned.

RECRUITMENT STANDARDS

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities - Thorough knowledge of the laws, rules and regulations applicable to the enforcement of fertilizer marketing standards in North Carolina. Thorough knowledge of the chemical properties and utilization effects of various fertilizers upon crops. Ability to effectively administer the laws, rules and regulations which control fertilizer composition and marketing standards in North Carolina. Ability to recognize program and policy needs and to develop new or revised programs and legislation. Ability to supervise staff personnel and serve as a consultant to employees. Ability to coordinate activities with other agencies. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with producers, dealers, farmers, commodity groups, state and federal agencies, and the general public.

Minimum Training and Experience - Graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in agronomy, crop science, soil science or a closely related curriculum and four years of related work experience; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

Special Note - This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA. Examples of work are primarily essential functions of the majority of positions in this class, but may not be applicable to all positions.