

WARC Research Associate

Job Objectives:

Under the supervision of the General Manager, the Research Associate is responsible for sourcing funding, managing, and carrying out field research and demonstration projects for the Western Applied Research Corporation (WARC). The Research Associate will represent WARC and uphold the commitment to provide technical transfer of results to producers and agronomists.

Job Description:

In conjunction with the General Manager, the Research Associate will collaborate with other researchers, agronomists, and industry representatives to conduct field research and demonstration projects. They will positively represent WARC and promote the interests of WARC in written articles and at meetings, as well as any other assignments directed by the WARC General Manager or Board of Directors.

Duties Include:

Project Identification and Development:

- Develop priorities and issues with input from the WARC General Manager and Board of Directors.
- Identify potential projects and collaborate with other researchers and consultants to develop and implement protocols.
- Develop and write new research project proposals for research and demonstrations on behalf of WARC.
- Prepare and manage budgets for individual projects and demonstrations.
- Meet contract deadlines and reporting requirements as contained within the contracts.

Field Research (in collaboration with other WARC Research Personnel):

- Coordinate and carry out field activities including seeding, treatment application, plot maintenance, data collection, harvest, sample processing, etc.
- Develop and implement quality control procedures to ensure research is conducted according to contracts and protocols.
- Analyze/ interpret data and write reports or submit data to appropriate collaborators to meet deadlines as outlined in contracts.
- Source land and off station sites as needed with General Manager
- Ensure quality of all plots through on-going field scouting and perform resulting maintenance as required.

- Develop and submit peer-reviewed manuscripts in collaboration with research personnel and collaborating sites

Technology Transfer

- Develop written reports, presentations, posters, factsheets, etc. keeping the intended audience in mind (farmers/agronomists or researchers).
- Presentations at Field Days and other extension events as requested.
- Coordinate with AAFC, Saskatchewan Agriculture Crop Specialists, or commodity group agronomists to ensure relevant information is available to agronomists and researchers.
- Represent WARC at various meetings with funding bodies, government, stakeholders, and industry at tradeshow, extension meetings, conferences, etc.
- Work with all WARC personnel to develop and carry out technology transfer events

Agriculture Designations:

- The designations of professional agrologist and certified crop science consultant are a requirement of the position. If not already qualified, the Research Associate must be willing to work towards these designations while performing the duties of the position.

Essential Qualifications:

A Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture, preferably in crop science, plant science, or agronomy, is required. An equivalent combination of education and experience will also be considered. A Masters' degree would be considered an asset. Expertise in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint is required. Knowledge and experience in field research with the ability to operate small plot equipment and a valid driver's license are also requirements.

Asset Qualifications:

Candidates with the ability of or understanding of statistical analysis will be given preference. Other asset qualifications include the ability to work independently, strong leadership skills, ability to work in a team environment, good time management skills, and excellent written/verbal communication skills. Candidates who are able to learn new computer systems such as SAS (Statistics Analysis Systems) and ARM (Agricultural Research Manager program) will be given preference. In addition, the candidate needs to be able to communicate effectively with the research community as well as with producers.

Salary and Working Conditions:

Salary is based on education and experience according to an approved schedule with annual performance increments set at the discretion of the WARC Board of Directors. Working hours

are flexible with a minimum of a 40 hour week. The employee is expected to manage his/her own work schedule. There is no allowance for overtime pay.

Reporting:

The WARC Research Associate will report directly to the WARC General Manager. A monthly accounting of work performed is to be provided to the WARC Board of Directors. A performance assessment will be completed in conjunction with the General Manager and presented to the Board of Directors.