

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

University of California Cooperative Extension Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Viticulture Advisor

Serving Kern, Tulare and Kings Counties

AP #12-17

LOCATION: Kern County, Cooperative Extension

CLOSING DATE: To assure full consideration, application packets must be received by April 5, 2013 (open until filled).

BACKGROUND: The University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), a statewide program with local development and delivery, is seeking an academic advisor to conduct a multi-county-based extension, education and applied research program. The main focus of this position is table grapes. However, it also includes grapes for wine and raisins. The candidate should be able to develop and integrate all aspects of grape production to promote sustainability, profitability, food safety, and environmental stewardship.



The UC ANR vision guides priorities in research, education, service, and resource allocation. ANR envisions a thriving California in 2025 where healthy people and communities, healthy food systems, and healthy environments are strengthened by a close partnership between the University of California and its research and extension programs and the people of the state. The University remains connected and committed to the people of California, who enjoy a high quality of life, a healthy environment, and economic success in a global economy.

[http://ucanr.edu/About ANR/Strategic Vision/](http://ucanr.edu/About%20ANR/Strategic%20Vision/).

Kern County, the headquarters for this position, is located in the southern Central Valley of the state of California. Extending east beyond the southern slope of the eastern Sierra Nevada range into the Mojave Desert, it includes parts of the Indian Wells Valley and the Antelope Valley. From the Sierras the county extends across the floor of the San Joaquin Valley to the eastern edge of the Temblor Range, part of the Coastal Ranges. To the south the county extends over the ridge of the Tehachapi Mountains. Grapes are consistently ranked as one of the top grossing agricultural products in Kern County. In terms of value,

grapes are the number one commodity. Additionally, Kern County has a large agricultural base and is a significant producer of oil, natural gas, hydro-electric power, wind turbine power, and geothermal power.

Please refer to the following websites for more information regarding UC Cooperative Extension in Kern, Tulare and Kings Counties:

Kern County - <http://cekern.ucanr.edu/>

Tulare County - <http://cetulare.ucanr.edu/>

Kings County - <http://ceking.ucanr.edu>



Our Culture: Working at UC ANR offers a career with a history and a future. Since the first Advisors were hired in California almost 100 years ago, we have maintained our central purpose as stewards, problem-solvers, catalysts, collaborators, and educators. Academics in UC ANR enjoy a network of colleagues across our system of local offices, statewide programs, 3 colleges and 1 professional school in the UC system. Our culture is characterized by collaboration and entrepreneurship in a vibrant working environment. New academic staff are mentored and supported by this network of colleagues.

NATURE AND PURPOSE: In collaboration with the California Table Grape Commission, the UCCE in partnership with industry has identified these areas of need as critical for table grapes in the southern San Joaquin Valley: vine growth and development, table grape production, vine nutrition, rootstock evaluation, vineyard management systems, automation and mechanization, crop/fruit development, integrated pest and disease management in table grape vineyards including soil pests, post-harvest handling, cultural practices and their impact on fruit quality and yield, and minimizing the environmental effects of production and cultural practices. Additional expertise needs were identified as irrigation and soil science and, secondarily, in plant physiology.

Extension:

The individual will be expected to present at appropriate conferences and symposia. In addition, this advisor will be expected to work with other Kern, Tulare and Kings County advisors to provide expertise to local clientele through office and phone consultations. The advisor will work with local agencies to provide outreach on critical issues associated with their responsibilities.

The individual will manage an ongoing extension education program utilizing outreach methods which will include individual consultations, field days, tours, meetings, web conferences, ANR publications, peer-reviewed journals, and an appropriate mix of contemporary and emerging electronic tools such as online learning, web content systems and repositories, social media, impact and evaluation tools, along with specialized and public media outlets.

Research:

It is expected that research will revolve around the needs outlined above and as determined through ongoing needs assessments. Future viticulture research and education needs in Kern, Tulare and Kings Counties will be driven by several forces, to include; the decreasing quality, reliability and increasing cost of water; decreasing availability and increasing cost of labor; consumer and industry emphasis on food

safety and product quality; increasing environmental regulatory requirements for development of best management practices; the increasing need for early detection and control of invasive species through integrated pest management.

The academic in this position will be expected to interact with UC ANR Program Teams, Specialists, Advisors, others within the research/extension network, and the industry through the appointed advisory groups and the California Table Grape Commission to develop, strengthen and expand the local delivery of statewide programs.



MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Conduct and report regular needs assessments to identify priority issues or problems relevant to the local clientele groups being served.
- Develop and implement effective UC ANR Cooperative Extension applied research and educational programs to address the identified priority needs of the clientele that are consistent with ANR's Strategic Vision and ANR initiatives <http://ucanr.edu/files/906.pdf>.
 - Conduct applied research designed to monitor changes and solve locally relevant problems.
 - Disseminate useful, science-based information to inform clientele, using extension methods that are responsive to clientele needs and appropriate for the audience and situation.
 - Maintain and promote Cooperative Extension's credibility by providing science-based knowledge and skills independent of personal or parochial interests.
 - Evaluate programs and report accomplishments, results, and potential or actual impacts to scientific and lay audiences.
 - Develop collaborative teams with other UC ANR academics, campus-based specialists and faculty and/or others, to address priority issues for UC ANR.

RELATIONSHIPS: The Advisor is administratively responsible to the UCCE Kern County Director, with input from the Tulare and Kings County Director.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: An understanding of and commitment to UC ANR's affirmative action goals and commitments is expected of all advisors.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: The minimum requirement for the position is a Master's degree in an agricultural science, such as plant science or horticulture, with an emphasis on viticulture, although other advanced degrees are encouraged. Additional course work or specialized training in entomology, plant pathology or soil science is preferred. Education, training, or experience in viticulture is required.

SALARY: Beginning salary will be in the Cooperative Extension Assistant Advisor Rank and commensurate with applicable experience and professional qualifications. For information regarding Cooperative Extension Advisor salary scales, please refer to the University of California, ANR website: <http://www.ucop.edu/academic-personnel/files/1112/table28.pdf>

This is an academic career-track appointment. Prior to the completion of the initial appointment, the position and the incumbent's performance will be reviewed. If the review reflects a continuing need for the position and the incumbent's performance is judged to be of high quality, our intention is to offer a second definite term appointment of two years, subject to renewal based on the same criteria. After a maximum of three such consecutive definite term appointments, based on the above criteria, a decision will be made whether to offer an indefinite appointment, pending funding availability.

If the successful candidate is currently a UCCE Advisor, the candidate will be offered the position as a lateral transfer, retaining their current rank, step, salary, and definite or indefinite status.

BENEFITS: The University of California offers comprehensive benefits including two days per month paid vacation, one day per month paid sick leave, and approximately thirteen paid holidays per year. ANR is part of UC's Family-Friendly Policies. A variety of health and dental insurance plans are available, with employer contributions to the premiums. In addition, the University provides basic life and disability insurance, which may be supplemented at group rates. Workers' Compensation Insurance is provided. An excellent UC Retirement System is coordinated with social security, and optional annuity plans may supplement retirement. Automobile insurance is available. For more information, refer to the UC Benefits website at: <http://atyourservice.ucop.edu>.

HOW TO APPLY: To be considered, applicants must electronically submit the following four components of the Application Packet to ANRacademicsearch@ucop.edu:

1. Cover Letter
2. ANR Academic Application Form— from the ANR website at: <http://ucanr.edu/academicapplication>
Please include a list of potential references. If you are selected for an interview, the search committee will contact the references you listed on the UC ANR application form (a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) names, current addresses, phone numbers and email addresses). Please do not send letters of reference.
3. CV or Resume
4. College Level Transcripts: Original transcripts preferred, however, legible photocopies of original transcripts will be accepted.

Application and associated materials will not be returned to the applicant.

A search committee will review all applications, interview candidates, and recommend individuals most suitable for the position.

For information regarding this position, contact:

***ANR Academic Personnel
Academic Recruiter
(530) 754-8509***

E-mail Address: ANRacademicsearch@ucop.edu

Internet: <http://www.ucanr.edu/jobs>

PLEASE REFER TO POSITION NUMBER AP# 12-17 IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE

The University of California prohibits discrimination or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (covered veterans are special disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, Vietnam era veterans, or any other veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized) in any of its programs or activities. University policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws. Inquiries regarding the University's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action/Academic Personnel Executive Director, University