AUBURN
Human Resources

Research Associate II-Ag Research

Job Description

JOB INFORMATION

Job Code	HA15
Job Description Title	Research Associate II-Ag Research
Pay Grade	RE07
Range Minimum	$46,010
33rd %	$55,220
Range Midpoint	$59,820
67th %	$64,420
Range Maximum	$73,620
Exemption Status	Exempt
Organizational use restricted to the following divisions	120 College of Agriculture
Approved Date:	3/20/2025 4:57:19 PM

JOB FAMILY AND FUNCTION

Job Family:	Research
Job Function:	Disciplinary Research

JOB SUMMARY

Performs aphid identification as part of a regional research collaboration aimed at understanding the seasonal dynamics of aphid species that infest cotton. The overarching goal of this project is to understand variation in the abundance, distribution, and timing of infestations into cotton across the cotton belt.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develops and assists with complex research project proposals, plans, and protocols related to aphid infestations of cotton to include maintaining plant wellness and development in controlled greenhouse environments, evaluating plant growth, and managing the insect colonies.
- Conducts non-routine experiments, investigations and/or studies related to aphid identification and infestations.
- Coordinates lab research equipment, materials, and labor/maintenance for controlled greenhouse environment.
- Records, compiles, processeses and analyzes aphid and cotton data/samples.
- Documents research results and observations; contributes to scientific writing for publications and presentations at conferences.
- Assists graduate students with successful execution and publication of their research projects.

The responsibilities listed above show the typical duties for jobs in this classification. Actual tasks may differ depending on the department's needs. Other similar duties may be assigned with discretion of the supervisor. Not every duty will apply to every position, and the amount of time spent on each task can change based on department needs.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisory Responsibility	May be responsible for training, assisting or assigning tasks to others. May provide input to performance reviews of other employees.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

To be eligible, an individual must meet all minimum requirements which are representative of the knowledge, skills, and abilities typically expected to be successful in the role. For education and experience, minimum requirements are listed on the top row below. If substitutions are available, they will be listed on subsequent rows and may only to be utilized when the candidate does not meet the minimum requirements.

MINIMUM EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

Education Level	Focus of Education		Years of Experience	Focus of Experience	
Master's Degree	Agronomy, Plant Physiology, Plant Pathology, Biological Sciences, Entomology, or Agricultural Biology	and	2 years of	experience in research practices and protocols related to aphid infestations into cotton across the Cotton Belt	Or
PhD	Agronomy, Plant Physiology, Plant Pathology, Biological Sciences, Entomology, or Agricultural Biology	and	0 years of	experience in research practices and protocols related to aphid infestations into cotton across the Cotton Belt	

MINIMUM KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, & ABILITIES

Professional knowledge and expertise in experience in research practices and protocols related to aphid infestations into cotton across the Cotton Belt.	
Highly advanced knowledge in the field of research and the design of experiments and broad expert knowledge of a wide range of complex equipment, materials and processes related to research planning, funding, and operations.	
Expertise in Laboratory Operations and Management Systems.	
Advanced understanding of plant pathology, growth, and insect identification.	
Enhanced problem-solving abilities to optimize and expand research system scalability.	
Proficiency in coordinating research endeavors with a diverse array of subject matter experts to advance interdisciplinary research initiatives.	

PHYSICAL DEMANDS & WORKING CONDITIONS

Physical Demands Category:	Other

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Physical Demand	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Constantly	Weight
Standing				X		
Walking				X		
Sitting				X		
Lifting		X				25 lbs
Climbing	X					
Stooping/ Kneeling/ Crouching			X			
Reaching			X			
Talking				X		
Hearing				X		
Repetitive Motions				X		
Eye/Hand/Foot Coordination				X		

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Working Condition	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Constantly
Extreme cold			X		
Extreme heat			X		
Humidity			X		

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Working Condition	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Constantly
Wet			X		
Noise			X		
Hazards			X		
Temperature Change			X		
Atmospheric Conditions			X		
Vibration			X		

Vision Requirements:
Ability to see information in print and/or electronically.