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| Title:<br><b>Lead Agronomist</b>            | Effective Date:<br>June 24, 2017 | Grade:<br>XV | Job Category:<br>Professional |
| Prior Title:<br><b>Initial Distribution</b> | Prior Effective Date:            | Grade:       | Page:<br>1 of 1               |

*CHARACTERISTICS OF WORK*

Under the State Maintenance Engineer's direct supervision, this position is responsible for the supervision of area Agronomists and accountable for overseeing the establishment and maintenance of turf on existing Department right of way and the use of chemicals for the control of unwanted vegetation to ensure adequate erosion control, esthetically pleasing right of way and the proper and safe use of chemicals.

*EXAMPLES OF WORK*

The following examples are intended only as illustrations of various types of work performed. No attempt is made to be exhaustive. Related, similar, or other logical duties are performed as assigned. The Department may require employees to perform functions beyond those contained in job descriptions. The Department may modify job descriptions based on Department needs. The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department is an "at will" employer.

- Provide the Department with information concerning the proper choice and application of erosion control procedures and turf for inclusion on, or modification of contract construction projects to ensure that desired turf and erosion control characteristics are achieved.
- Assist District Maintenance Engineers in their efforts to establish and maintain turf in critical areas to assure proper seed selection and application depending upon soil and site characteristics, and to assure that proper maintenance procedures appropriate to the type of turf are followed.
- Develop specifications governing seed and chemical purchase and application procedures to ensure economical and efficient establishment of turf.
- Oversee and assist Districts in the use of chemicals for vegetation control to ensure that desired results are economically achieved while minimizing unwanted effects upon the local environment.
- Coordinate the Certification and Training Program administered by the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service and category examinations (Right of Way) administered by the State Plant Board to ensure the safe and proper use of herbicides.
- Review and assist Districts with Utility Applications for mechanical and chemical brush control to minimize unsightly vegetation control adjacent to the right of way.
- Train and provide direct assistance to Agronomists.

*MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS*

The educational equivalent to a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in agronomy, botany, or related field plus two years of experience, OR the educational equivalent to a diploma from an accredited high school and at least six years of experience in agronomy, botany, or related field. Experience overseeing the Department's Chemical Program, or similar experience. Certification by the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service for pesticide/herbicide application in the Right-of-Way category. Licensed to purchase herbicides in the State of Arkansas. Effective leadership and communication skills. Valid driver's license.

*("Accredited" means the educational institution or program is accredited by an accrediting organization recognized either by the United States Department of Education or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.)*

