



Garden/Farm Assistant

Join our team of talented, passionate, and dedicated professionals in a fast-paced, growing, environmentally-conscious company. Located on beautiful farmland in Delta, BC, our head “office” is an amazing renovated farm house with scenic views of our lush gardens and fields. We care about each other and what we do, and are looking for an Assistant for our farm co-ordinator who manages our trial and demonstration fields as well as generally maintain our property.

This position is a wonderful opportunity for the person who has a keen interest in organic gardening and farming practices. You will be working with experienced, knowledgeable colleagues and be exposed to a wide variety of vegetable, flower and herb growing trials as well the packet seed business.

The Garden/Farm Assistant will be a positive and confident individual who possesses strong interpersonal skills. Your strengths will lie in your ability to genuinely engage with our team while demonstrating our core values and contributing positively to the organization.

Our Company

West Coast Seeds believes, first and foremost, in the principles of organic growing and sustainable agriculture. Namely, we feel that food and all plants can be grown without the use of synthetic chemicals and that the seeds we supply are an important component within the broader approach to organic gardening. We support growers as custodians of the land they grow on — however large or small — and through adopting organic gardening techniques such as composting, companion planting and planting pollinator friendly plants, we help repair the world by nourishing the soil, and ourselves.

Founded in 1983, West Coast Seeds’ purpose was to source and supply seeds of a higher quality than had been available to home gardeners and to this day, we continue to provide top quality seeds backed by strict quality controls. Following the traditions of organic farming and gardening, the focus was on offering untreated seeds suitable for organic growing. Today we offer over 1,000 varieties of untreated, non-GMO, open pollinated and hybrid vegetable, herb and flower seeds, as well as a wide range of unique bird feeders and quality gardening supplies.

The Role:

Assist and support the Farm/Garden Coordinator in all aspects of the following:

- Plant, Maintain and Harvest our Trial, Demonstration and Display Gardens and Raised Beds using sustainable organic practices in accordance with annual plans
- Track and document seed trials results from planting to harvest
- Attend to greenhouse planting and maintenance
- Lawn cutting, weeding, irrigation, and general cleaning and maintenance of farm property
- Provide information to organic farmers, gardeners and other visitors interested in organic agriculture about our trial and demonstration gardens
- Engage with gardening and farming communities through attending events, trade shows, providing visitors with tours and information on activities “on the farm”
- Work with community organizations on donating excess harvests to local food banks and soup kitchens
- Supporting staff on their staff raised beds gardening efforts
- Maintain upkeep of the overall farm field, garden and landscaping to ensure it reflects the West Coast Seeds brand with the objective of becoming the “go to” centre for resources on organic farming and gardening.

Attributes and Skills:

- Strong work ethic and willing and able to undertake manual labour outdoors (preparing soil, planting, watering, weeding, harvesting)
- Ability to work independently as well as take direction from the Garden/Farm Coordination and Seed Product Manager
- Knowledge and belief of basic organic farming practices as well as composting, recycling and other sustainable practices
- Some experience in gardening or farming related activities or eagerness to learn
- Ability to use basic farm equipment & tools.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Highly organized with good time management and attention to detail and tidiness
- Ability to observe and document detail from seed trials clearly and accurately
- Strong sense of community mindedness

The Perks

- Each employee has an opportunity to grow their own vegetables, flowers and herbs
- The opportunity to participate in community & educational events promoting organic growers & supporting gardeners

- Take home fresh produce harvested on-site from our trial and demonstration gardens in-season
- Participate in a culture of charitable giving, where we support numerous charities both financially and through seed donations, and donate upwards of 6,000 lbs. of fresh produce annually
- Join our Cooking Club in making delicious meals using our on-site fresh grown produce and participate in our summer-time barbeques

How to Apply:

Forward your resume via e-mail to careers@westcoastseeds.com complete with a cover letter and salary expectations. We thank all applicants for their interest, however; only those who qualify for in interview will be contacted.

Job Type: Seasonal full-time (now until September/October 2018)