



Crist Bros. Orchards, Inc.

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65 Crist Lane
Walden, NY 12586



845-778-7424



www.cristapples.com



Job Description

ORCHARD MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATE

Crist Bros. Orchards (CB) is a family owned and operated modern apple farm looking for a self-driven, detail oriented Orchard Management Associate. This is a hands-on field manager position that requires a team player who thrives in a small business environment. This job includes a mix of orchard scouting and trapping, hands-on field work, spray program development and workforce management. We are looking for a long term employee with the desire to develop a career within our organization.

CB consists of 9 apple orchards located in New York's Orange and Ulster Counties (700 acres) where we grow 17+ varieties of high quality apples. In addition to growing, CB has state of the art storage and packing facilities. CB is an innovative regional leader in apple production and this is an excellent position for a hard working candidate enthused about all areas of farming and ready to dive into our fast-paced farming operation.

POSITION OVERVIEW

- Initially the majority of employee's time will be spent learning to scout and trap insects and diseases, operating equipment, spraying, pruning, planting, and working in the field to learn the ins & outs of farm operations.
- Orchard Management Associate will be a key part of the management team, assisting with many facets of the operation. Employee's key responsibilities will be tailored to their skills and interests. Growth into spray program management and/or personnel management.

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AREAS of RESPONSIBILITY

1) Pest Control

Scouting & IPM Programs

- a. Work with our existing IPM team to identify, monitor and control pests
- b. Attend clinics and programs to stay educated and informed
- c. Understand the landscape and microclimates of our farms

Spray Program

- a. Obtain private applicators license
- b. Write spray plans
- c. Enter completed spray records in database
- d. Monitor weather conditions and adapt

2) Orchard & Harvest Management

- a. Sequence labor, spray, IPM, planting, mowing and other farm activities
- b. Identify issues and priorities
- c. Monitor weather forecasts and adapt to changing conditions
- d. Pitch in and help complete what needs to be done including forklift work, tractor driving, moving workforce, etc.
- e. Maturity testing and prioritization of picking schedule
- f. Assist in coordinating and moving fruit to storages
- g. Assist with harvest quality control

3) Workforce Leadership

- a. Manage quality control work being done in the field
- b. Identify and implement strategies to make workforce more effective and efficient
- c. Manage workers from job to job, site to site

4) Food Safety

- a. Be vigilant to maintain a safe product
- b. Ensure compliance with company protocols in the field
- c. Actively pursue new ways we can mitigate food safety risks

5) Research & Development

- a. Execute field trials on new growing practices, chemicals, etc.
- b. Compile results with a cost benefit analysis and recommendation
- c. Liaise with industry partners such as Cornell researchers.

6) Equipment & Facility Maintenance

- a. Coordinate with management & mechanics on timely repairs and priorities
- b. Foster best practices to minimize equipment downtime
- c. Understand and assist with calibrations of equipment (spray, fertilizer)
- d. Experiment with new equipment and integrate into operations as appropriate

7) Shared Management Responsibilities

- a. Assist with whole farm operations
- b. Ensure workplace and personal safety
- c. Foster a positive workplace
- d. Ensure compliance with labor laws & company policies

Desired Experience/Capabilities

- Demonstrated experience and interest in farming required, fruit and vegetable experience preferred
- Strong organization skills and ability to multitask
- College degree
- English fluency required, Spanish is a plus (learning some Spanish will be necessary)
- Full time schedule and understanding that farming hours are dependent on seasonality and weather. Weekend work will be expected, particularly in the Spring and Fall.

To Apply: Email cover letter and resume to info@crisapples.com. References will be required if extended an interview.