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Propagation Assistant

Job Description: Saunders Brothers is a family owned and operated wholesale nursery and orchard in beautiful central Virginia. We are seeking a Propagation Assistant for our woody production division. Our long-established family nursery will provide the tools and professional development opportunities to help you succeed. Saunders Brothers is committed to beautifying our world by producing the highest quality woody shrubs, annuals, and perennials for discerning customers. If you've dreamed of working in a diverse family atmosphere where hard work, integrity, honesty, and passion are core values, come join our team!

Requirements and duties include the following:

- Perform daily maintenance of propagation houses including weeding, pruning, scouting for insects and disease, consolidating liners and monitoring & recording rooting status and plant health.
- Monitor mist system while plants are rooting and making minor repairs if needed.
- Preparing supplies for propagation crews and communicating daily tasks with group leaders.
- Quality control of plant material and communicating any necessary corrections to group leaders.
- Perform some record keeping and data entry.
- Assist propagation manager in scouting locations for best cutting material.
- Able to stoop/kneel/bend over in order to closely monitor crops.
- Willing to work both in crews and independently in propagation houses for extended periods.
- Willing to perform other duties as needed.

Qualifications:

- Prefer at least 1 year of horticultural experience.
- Prefer someone that can speak Spanish or willing to learn to speak Spanish.
- Must be physically capable of performing the responsibilities and requirements of this position, may include bending, stooping, lifting flats of plants, etc.
- Have good organizational skills, be able to prioritize workload, and have flexibility as work demands change.
- Have excellent communication skills and be able to effectively work with other staff members.
- Have a strong work ethic and willingness to work with others.
- Willing to work outside in all types of weather and may work independently in the nursery.
- Willing to work Saturdays on a rotating schedule and after hours, as necessary.

Supervisor: This position answers directly to the Woody Grower (Propagation and Non-Blooming Evergreens) of Saunders Brothers, Inc.

Start Date: As soon as a suitable candidate is identified.

Work Hours: Normal working hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM with an hour for lunch. Summer hours are typically from 7:00 am until 4:00 pm. However, the individual must be willing to work additional hours as workload dictates. May require extended hours during summer months of propagating

season (as late as 7pm). Will be required to work some Saturdays on a rotating basis. Vacation must be approved in advance by the supervisor. Vacation will not be approved during the busy portions of the growing season.

Pay and Benefits: We offer a competitive hourly rate (commensurate with qualifications), health insurance, vacation package, short-term disability insurance, 401k package (eligible after 1 year of employment), and employee pricing on plants and farm market items. We also offer professional training and staff development opportunities for staff. This is a full-time, on site, year-round position.

Drug Testing and Background Checks: Saunders Brothers is committed to providing a drug-free and safe workplace. Therefore, all employees are subject to random drug testing, reasonable suspicion testing, and post-accident testing. In addition, all new employees will be subject to a background check.

Information: Saunders Brothers Inc. is located on the sunny side of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Comfortably situated less than 1 hour from the renowned University of Virginia medical center and Liberty University, Nelson County has numerous opportunities for hiking, biking, fishing, and skiing. In company perks include discounts at our retail Farm Market that include seasonal fruit from our orchards, family-raised meats and wholesale pricing on plants grown on our farm.

How to Apply: Contact Saunders Brothers Human Resources Office at jobs@saundersbrothers.com . The job description may be seen at www.saundersbrothers.com and the application can be downloaded or completed on the website. Application must be submitted with resume to be considered.

Saunders Brothers Core Values

Faith- Our Core Values and business practices are directed by our Christian faith.

Integrity-Honesty and truthfulness are foundational to our business.

Passion- We strive to enthusiastically share our love for Agriculture.

Family- The Saunders Brothers' Family includes and fosters many diverse families, generations, races, religions, and nationalities.

Business Purpose

To make a profit doing something we love.

To have a positive impact on our employees, customers, suppliers, community, and environment.

To provide a productive, nurturing, and fulfilling environment for our team.

Strategy

To be a premier supplier of superb-quality plant material for garden centers, landscapers, and public gardens throughout the Eastern United States.

To be a premier supplier of extraordinary fruit to the people of the Mid-Atlantic area.