

# AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

### COORDINATOR

184 Burnett Road, Freeport, ME 04032 Phone: (207) 865-4469 | Fax: (207) 865-4884 wolfesneck.org

#### **Position Summary**

Wolfe's Neck Center is situated on over 600 acres of preserved coastal landscape in Freeport, Maine and uses its setting to connect people of all ages to the food they eat and where it comes from. Encompassing a demonstration farm, oceanfront campground, wooded trails, and historic buildings, our vibrant campus serves as a unique hub for education and exploration. As a nonprofit, Wolfe's Neck Center draws upon a rich history of innovation and experimentation to continue the legacy of this place today. Through regenerative farming, innovative soil health research, and visitor interactions, this place-based organization is now used as an educational resource to create a healthier planet for all. We hope to inspire active participation in a healthier food system and build a community of people who care deeply about the future of food.

Launched this summer, with major funding from the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research, the OpenTEAM collaborative, or Open Technology Ecosystem for Agricultural Management, is a communitydriven platform to provide farmers and ranchers around the world with the best possible knowledge to improve soil health. OpenTEAM is a collaborative community of farmers, scientists and researchers, engineers, farm service providers, and food companies that are committed to improving soil health and advancing agriculture's ability to become a solution to climate change. OpenTEAM is coordinated out of and hosted at Wolfe's Neck Center, with leadership provided by the WNC Research Director, who serves as the OpenTEAM Secretariat. The Secretariat will be coordinating a global community of technology development teams and agricultural networks to improve interoperability, create new shared software services and tools to increase farmer feedback and increase the value of environmental feedback to farmers and ranchers, researchers and ecosystem service markets.

To support the development of OpenTEAM as well as other on-farm research activities at Wolfe's Neck Center, we are seeking an Agricultural Research Coordinator. The ideal candidate has excellent facilitation and organizational skills, and understands systems dynamics and how communities function to support farmerdriven and participatory action research. The candidate will be facilitating the creation of communities of practice and overseeing both on-going agricultural field trials at Wolfe's Neck Center as well as coordinating and facilitating global collaborative research projects representing diverse production systems, geographies, and scales. The candidate will be interacting and collaborating with technologists, academics, conservation professionals, farmers, ranchers, extension agents, land use planners, and citizen scientists to improve research outcomes and access to ideas, information and inspiration.

This position reports to the Wolfe's Neck Center Research Director and OpenTEAM Secretariat and involves significant collaboration with WNC staff, OpenTEAM partners and will likely include supervision of student interns.



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### Primary Responsibilities

- Provide on-the ground ag-technology support for on- and off-site collaborative on-farm research trials with an estimated balance of 50% on-site research coordination and documentation/50% off-site coordination.
- Develop and maintain updated templates for OpenTEAM field training
- Coordinate field data collection and human centered design programs across hub farms, accelerators and training farms in coordination with the Human Centered Design and Farm Network working groups.
- Manage on-the-ground field trials at WNC using OpenTEAM technology; coordinate farm crew and related logistics for WNC and partner led trials.
- Work with research partners to collect high quality field data at WNC and partner sites
- Develop train-the-trainer curriculum and set high-quality standards for in-field data collection tool use for soil health, management, and related data collection.
- Organize and host field days
- Work with OpenTEAM communications, design, and technology teams
- Present on-line and in-person to diverse audiences
- Work closely with farm network and field trail partners including but not limited to PASA, Soil Health Partnership, MSU, UBC and USDA/ARS.
- Support the implementation of all research and OpenTEAM activities at WNC and their integration into the farm operations, education programs and visitor experience.

### **Skills and Qualifications**

- B.S./B.A., M.S. in Agriculture, Environmental, or a related field (high emphasis on soil science/ agronomy and field trial management background). Related advanced degree is desired but not required.
- Strong credentials and knowledge of agricultural research methods, sustainable and regenerative agriculture, and the natural environment.
- Ability to work collaboratively as a member of a high functioning team and develop effective working relationships with people from a variety of backgrounds
- Strong interpersonal skills and public communication abilities, including excellent customer service and management ability with a diverse workforce, as well as writing and public speaking skills
- Strong organizational abilities, time management skills and ability to effectively plan ahead across the program season, and to prioritize and manage multiple projects.
- Energetic, dynamic and engaging personality
- Ability to deal with high levels of autonomy, and ability to be flexible to the changing needs of a vibrant and growing, but small, entrepreneurial organization, and to work well under pressure
- Must be able to work a variable work schedule, which includes occasional work on weekends

#### Compensation



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The Agricultural Research Coordinator is a full-time, year-round position. Starting salary is commensurate with experience. As a full-time employee, this position is eligible for benefits offered by Wolfe's Neck Center, including health insurance, dental insurance, paid vacation and holidays and our retirement savings plan.

#### To Apply

Please <u>email</u> a cover letter and resume to <u>jobs@wolfesneck.org</u> with **Research Coordinator** as the subject line. In the interest of reducing waste, please <u>do not mail a hard copy</u> of your materials. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply ASAP. This position will be posted until it is filled but application materials received by Dec 12<sup>th</sup> will be given preference. No Phone calls please. Position posted 11/12/19.

Wolfe's Neck Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in the workplace.