JOB PURPOSE:

McCain Foods, the largest potato processing company in the world, is seeking a potato agronomist for the Wisconsin Rapids, WI factory location. This individual must possess basic potato agronomic skills including potato growing practices, seed production, harvest and storage conditions, as well as exhibiting a strong comfort level working one-on-one with growers and industry groups on farms. This person should also have knowledge on upcoming technologies, conducting research trials, facilitating grower extension, as well as communicating with and between grower and company personnel. The Agronomist will report directly to the Field Manager located in Plover, WI.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Participate in the research, evaluation, and extension of new technologies as well as influencing grower adoption of new technologies. Collaborate with local universities, public research institutions and private companies to leverage regional agriculture expertise.
- Focus on developing strong relationships with growers in the Central U.S. Develop a deep understanding of the growers in the Central U.S., delivering technical solutions and successfully transferring those solutions and best practices.
- Lead potato variety development through the trialing and commercialization of higher yield/low cost varieties in the local region supported by the NA Agronomy Optimization and the NA Variety Development Subject Matter experts. Participate in the NA Agronomy variety review and recommendation process.
- Work collaboratively with U.S. Agriculture team to develop the agronomy strategic plan. Deploy individual grower improvement plans and annual performance goals that drive breakthrough results necessary to increase yield and decrease cost.
- Develop and disseminate advice to achieve optimum plant health and productivity through Best Management Practices relating to crop nutrients, crop protectants and field or storage management.
- Collaborates with McCain Field Representatives to collect, maintain, report and analyze data on potato crop development and quality throughout the growing and storage season.
- Builds knowledge of potato production and the industry that supports strategic recommendations to influence business decisions throughout the crop cycle.
- Attend relevant industry meetings to maintain and expand current knowledge base on potato production in North America.
- Relies and utilizes McCain's digital systems. Requires the ability to gain competency skill set in McCain systems Potato Data Base (PDB), Potato Contracting & Receiving (PC&R), and GMS.
- Participates and at times may lead work in support of Ag Strategy work, streams of work or key initiatives.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- Ability to multi-task and prioritize effectively.
- Knowledge of and willingness to develop new agronomic techniques.
- This position is most suited to an individual who demonstrates leadership skills and has the desire and ability to contribute and grow within the McCain Foods North America organization.
- Ability to supervise and direct the work of seasonal and hourly staff.
- Public speaking skills are a valuable asset.

KEY QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCES:

- A minimum of a Bachelor of Science degree coupled with related experience in Plant Science, Soil Science or Agricultural. Master of Science degree preferred.
- Knowledge of potato production and storage is preferred.
- Strong analytical, statistical, interpersonal and computer skills, particularly in Excel.
- A strong bias towards workplace safety

OTHER INFORMATION

- Willingness to monitor crop health in the field with possible exposure to the elements and at times, adverse weather conditions.
- Willingness to conduct In-person potato storage monitoring

The above information on this description has been designed to indicate the general nature and level of work performed by employees within this classification. It is not designed to contain or be interpreted as a comprehensive inventory of all duties, responsibilities and qualifications required of employees assigned to this job.