



Job Description – Post-Harvest Manager

Broetje Orchards is now seeking an experienced technician to help implement the company's post-harvest apple program. This person will help organize and implement the company's storage program for organic and conventional apples. The ideal candidate must be a strong team player, excellent communicator, well organized, and capable of working across multiple departments. The Post-Harvest Manager will monitor storage conditions, track results, evaluate post-harvest treatments and assess the effectiveness of the company's program. Formal education, technical training, and/or industry-related working experience is necessary. The candidate should be a motivated self-starter who values team building. Some travel is required to attend informational and educational meetings. Bilingual communication skills are a plus. This is a year-round position located near the Tri-Cities. This position reports to the Business Manager.

This position is accountable and reports to the business manager.

Broetje Orchards is one of the largest family-owned and operated tree-fruit company's, growing, packing, shipping, and marketing over 6 million boxes of apples a year. Our mission to be "*a quality fruit company committed to 'bearing fruit that will last'*" (Jn 15:16 NIV) is grounded in a "servant leadership" management approach. Broetje Orchards pursues a socially responsible business agenda, promoting social, economic and spiritual development opportunities for all of our employees and families in the surrounding communities.

* The specific job responsibilities and duties may shift and change over time depending on circumstances. The employee will need to be aware and supportive of this evolving process.

Strategic responsibilities include:

- **Accountability:** model and promote Broetje Orchards' mission, vision, and core values of love, community, respect, compassion, and purpose.
- **Technical Experience:** implement a successful post-harvest program, utilizing best management practices that sustains fruit quality, generates economical pack outs, and limits storage decay and disorders; work and support a team and team members to achieve key objectives; and monitor storage conditions; evaluate storage regime outcomes and suggest necessary changes.
- **Leadership:** maintain focus on organizational goals and objectives; work as a valued team member; actively work across multiple departments; develop employees as leaders, and serve as a positive role model for other team members.
- **Coordination:** develop and implement post-harvest storage planning and storage regimes for both conventional and organic fruit; develop and implement a quality control system at time of receiving fruit, during the storage period and prior to packing; Review costs and program effectiveness.

- **Communication:** distribute post-harvest fruit quality information in a timely and meaningful method to key team members throughout the post-harvest process; provide consistent and informative communication between all employees and outside partners; manage record keeping and reporting systems.

Strategic Responsibilities include:

- Develop and Implement a successful post-harvest program for organic and conventional apples
- Monitor fruit condition through the entire post-harvest process, from receiving to packing
- Develop storage plans, storage regimes and post-harvest treatments
- Coordinate a comprehensive evaluation process that tracks results and outcomes, from receiving to packing
- Track Controlled-Atmosphere conditions for all varieties throughout the storage process
- Develop and implement a fruit sample program to monitor fruit condition during storage process
- Coordinate the post-harvest meetings with Refrigeration, Receiving and Production
- Produce and distribute an annual report, evaluating storage regime outcomes, assess strengths, weaknesses and necessary changes
- Develop and implement protocols to qualify fruit successfully for Mexico, Taiwan and China
- Manage all necessary record keeping and reporting systems
- Seek out the latest information on post-harvest related issues and help keep team members informed of new trends and techniques

Desired Qualifications/Requirements:

- Working Experience and/or Technical Degree in the area of horticulture
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to develop and organize reports and spreadsheets
- Working knowledge of modern, diverse warehouse production and storage practices
- Capable to work as a contributing team member, while being self-motivated
- Ability to implement projects under pressure
- Working experience motivating and leading teams in a positive manner
- Proficiency in English and Spanish, a plus
- Familiar and comfortable using Microsoft Office programs

Educational Qualifications

Bachelor degree in Horticulture, Agricultural Science, or Ag Economics; and/or working experience in tree fruit production.

Application process: Send the following documents: 1) Cover letter; 2) Resume; 3) Two professional-related references to Lucy Cartagena, 1111 Fishhook Park Road, Prescott, WA 99348 or jobs@firstfruits.com. Deadline for application is July 21, 2017

JOB POSTING:

See below

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