

Careers in Agriculture

► The most obvious careers in agriculture are directly related to the farm or ranch. But did you know that only 10 percent of Americans are involved in traditional farming? What other careers are available in the agricultural field?

Approximately 22 million people now work in agriculture-related fields. Unlike the agriculture of our grandparents day, today's agriculture offers more than 200 rewarding and challenging careers. The following are some of the major areas for careers in agriculture.

Agribusiness Management

Focuses on the managerial functions performed by organizations throughout the food system. Sample job titles include commodity trader, agricultural production specialist, purchasing manager, financial manager, farm owner and manager, and wholesale/retail buyer manufacturing manager. Companies that hire for these positions include Seneca Food Corporation, Ralston Purina Company, Sunshine Mills, Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance, Archer-Daniels-Midland Company, Dow Elanco, Alabama Farm Credit, Pilgrim's Pride, and Mar-Jac Poultry.

Agricultural and Natural Resources Communications

Focuses on careers in journalism, public relations, and advertising/marketing. Sample job titles include marketing communications manager, district sales representative, advertising manager, reporter, editor, and account manager. Companies and entities that hire for these positions: Upjohn Company, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Milk Producers Federation, National Dairy Council, Alabama Farmers Federation, Alabama Cattlemen's Association, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

Building Construction Management

Focuses on land development and structural buildings. Sample job titles include project manager, estimator, construction scheduler, controller, purchasing agent, site manager, field engineer, land developer, and real estate appraiser. Companies that hire for these positions include Tiffin Motorhomes, Southern Homes, Reinke Irrigation, and Southern AGCOM.



Agriscience

Provides a foundation for careers in agricultural and natural resources industries. Sample job titles include agriscience educator, Extension educator, farmer, and human resources director. Companies that hire for these positions include Crop Production Services, John Deere, and Gerber Company

Resource Development and Management

Focuses on policy analysis, planning, evaluation, budgeting, and program management. Sample job titles include environmental analyst, environmental planner, solid waste coordinator, water resource specialist, and economic development specialist. Companies and entities that hire for these positions include the Cooperative Extension Service, the Bear Creek Watershed, the National Park Service, Enviroscope, Senate and House Policy Offices, lobbying organizations, banking organizations, city and state governments, and hospitals.

Parks, Recreation and Tourism Resources

Focuses on planning and managing programs, areas, and facilities designed to meet people's leisure needs and enhance quality of life. Sample job titles include park ranger, interpreter/naturalist, environmental educator, travel and convention planner, youth program director, camp counselor, park and recreation director, and tourism consultant. Companies and entities that hire for these positions include Hilton and Marriott Resorts, hospitals, YMCA, golf courses, Six Flags Great Adventure, and the Walt Disney Company.

Packaging

Focuses on food packaging, health care and pharmaceutical packaging, and industrial packaging. Sample job titles include packaging engineer, quality control coordinator, laboratory manager, and package designer. Companies that hire for these positions include Coca-Cola Company, Hershey Chocolate USA, Johnson and Johnson, 3M, IBM Corporation, and Amway Corporation.

Horticulture

Focuses on the science and art concerned with culture, marketing, and utilization of high-value, intensively cultivated fruits, flowers, vegetables, and ornamental plants. Sample job titles include retail manager, landscape designer, entrepreneur, florist, contractor, nursery grower, and nursery stock buyer. Companies that hire for these positions include Bonnie Plants, Gerber, Ball Corporation, and Pan American Seed.



Forestry

Focuses on the science and art of managing natural resources on forest lands. Sample job titles include forester, forest ranger, consulting forester, district ranger, arborist, naturalist, timber buyer, and forest nursery manager. Companies and entities that hire for these positions include the Mead Corporation, John Hancock Financial Services, city governments, and the USDA Forest Service.

Food Science

Focuses on the development of new foods, investigation of new production and processing methods, and researches ways to ensure a safe, nutritious, and economical food supply. Sample job titles include food technician, laboratory technician, food chemist, and quality control manager. Companies that hire for these positions include Pepsicola, Kraft/General Foods, Hygrade Food Products, Kellogg Company, General Mills, Pillsbury, and Heinz USA.

Fisheries and Wildlife

Focuses on environmental management, conservation, and wildlife ecology and management. Sample job titles include land management specialist, water quality specialist, habitat specialist, and fish hatchery manager. Companies and entities that hire for these positions include US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, state and local divisions of surface water quality, land and water management, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Career Pathways

Various pathways are available for pursuing a career in agriculture. Explore the following options.



Agricultural Business

Accountant

Accounting Manager

Administrative Assistant

Advisor—Government/
Stakeholder Relations

Agricultural Financial Service
Representative

Agricultural Lawyer

Agricultural Legal Assistant

Agricultural Literacy and
Advocacy Specialist

Agricultural Loan Officer

Agricultural Lobbyist

Agriculture Broadcaster

Agriculture Journalist

Agriculture Legislative Assistant

Agriculture Science Teachers—
Secondary

Auditor Benefits Manager

Brand Manager

Budget Analyst

Career Counselor/Career
Services Coordinator

Certified Appraiser

Chief Executive Officer

Chief Financial Officer

Chief Operating Officer

College Recruiter

Commodity Procurement/
Merchandiser

Communications Specialist

Compensation Specialist

Controller

Corporate Recruiter

Credit Analyst

Crop Adjuster

Customer Service
Representative

Data Processor

Dispatcher

Economist

Event Manager

Executive Assistant

Export Documentation
Specialist

Export Sales Manager

Extension Agent

Extension Youth Program
Coordinator

Farm Business Manager/
Accountant

Feed Mill Manager

Financial Analyst

Fleet Manager

Grain Buyer

Grain Elevator Manager

Grain Marketing Specialist

Graphic Designer

Human Resource Manager

Human Resources Generalist

Information Technology (IT)
App Developer

Information Technology (IT)
Programmer

Information Technology (IT)
Software Developer

Information Technology (IT)
Specialist

Information Technology (IT)
Web Developer

Information Technology Analyst

Information Technology Configurator

Intern

Inventory/Stock Specialist

Logistics & Supply Chain
Management

Marketing Specialist

Office Manager

Patent Scientist/Patent Attorney

Payroll Administrator

Port Terminal Manager

Post-Secondary Educator College/
University Professor

Process/Continuous
Improvement Manager

Procurement Specialist

Product Development Manager/
Demand Planner

Production Manager

Public Relations Specialist

Purchasing Analyst

Quality Assurance Auditor

Quality Assurance Manager

Real Estate Manager

Receptionist

Retail Branch Manager

Risk Management Specialist

Sales Representatives—
Food, Seed, Feed, Fuel

Sales Trainer

Shipping Coordinator

Social Media Strategist

Supply Chain Manager

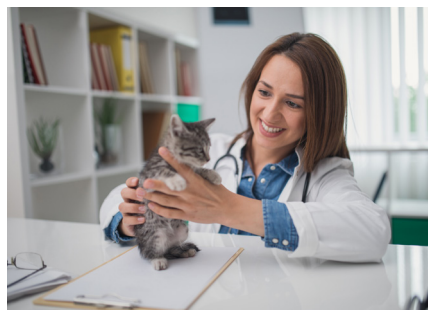
Warehouse Manager/
Facility Manager

Weighbridge/Receivable Associate



Agricultural Mechanics

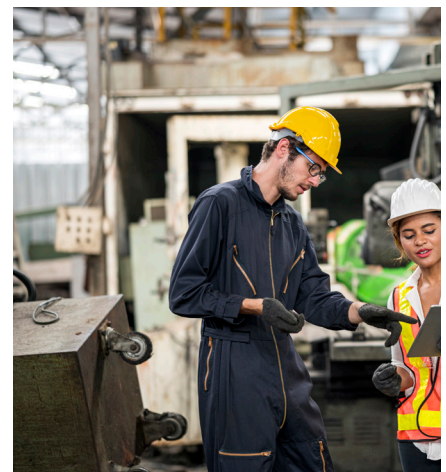
Assembly Technician
 Automation Coordinator/Technician
 Carpenter/Laborer
 Construction Foreman
 Cotton Gin and Warehouse Manager
 Dealer Services Representative
 Design Engineer
 Electrical Engineer
 Electrician/Electronics Technician
 Geospatial Analytics Scientist
 Heavy Equipment Operator/
 Forklift Operator
 Hydraulics Technician
 Livestock Hauler
 Maintenance/Service Technician
 Mechanical Engineer
 Parts Manager
 Precision Agriculture Specialist
 Rendering Truck Driver/
 Rendering Maintenance
 Sales Representative—
 Equipment and Ag Systems
 Service Writer
 Truck Driver
 Welder



Animal Science

Animal Biotechnologist
 Animal Geneticist
 Animal Physical Therapist
 Animal Welfare Specialist/Auditor
 Apiary Worker/Beekeeper
 Artificial Insemination Technician
 Beef Farm Worker
 Bloodstock Agent
 Breed Association Representative
 Breeding Manager/
 Multiplication Manager
 Butcher
 Carcass Merchandiser
 Carcass Ultrasound Technician
 Dairy Farm Worker
 Embryologist
 Equine Chiropractor
 Equine Therapist
 Falconer
 Farm Worker—Small Ruminant
 Farrier
 Feed Mill Operator
 Feedlot Manager
 Fence Building/Repair
 Food Animal Veterinarian
 Herdsman
 Horse Trainer/Instructor
 Large Animal Veterinarian

Livestock Auctioneer
 Livestock Buyer
 Livestock Geneticist
 Livestock Grader
 Livestock Hauler
 Livestock Loader
 Livestock Nutritionist
 Livestock Sale Barn Manager
 Meat Inspector
 Penrider
 Pet Groomer
 Pharmaceutical Sales
 Representative
 Poultry Farm Worker
 Poultry Hatchery Manager
 Poultry Production Supervisor
 Pressure Washer Operator
 Ranch Manager
 Sales Representatives:
 Feed and Animal Health
 Small Animal Veterinarian
 Sow Farm Manager
 Swine Finishing Farm Manager
 Swine Nursery Worker
 Veterinary Assistant
 Veterinary Pathologist





Environmental Services

Biosecurity Monitor
Climate Change Analyst
Ecologist
Energy Sales Specialist
Environmental Compliance Officer
Environmental Engineer
Environmental Science and Protection Technician
Environmental Scientist and Specialist
Fisheries Technician
Game Warden
Hydroponics Producer
Marine Biologist
Mine Engineer
Nematologist
Nutrient Management / Waste Management Specialist
Occupational Health and Safety Manager
Pest Control Adviser
Propane Sales and Delivery
Sanitation Coordinator
Toxicologist
Water Treatment Technician
Wildlife Biologist
Wind Turbine Technician



Food Science

Evisceration Processor
Fermentation Scientist
Flavor Technologist
Food Chain Outreach Coordinator
Food Production Supervisor
Food Safety/
Quality Assurance Manager
Food Safety Specialist
Food Stylist
Food Technologist
Freezer/Refrigeration Specialist
Nutritionist/Dietitian
Packaging Engineer
Pricing Coordinator
Process Engineer
Produce Buyer
Produce Inspector
Product Development
Food Scientist
R&D Technician
Slaughter Processor–Deboning
Slaughter Processor–
General Operator
Slaughter Processor–Hanger/
Loader
Slaughter Processor–Packing
Scales
Slaughter Processor–Trimming/
Cutting
Storage and Hygiene
Coordinator



Natural Resources

Aquaculture Hatchery Manager
Aquaculturist
Biological Technician
Biorefining Specialist
Conservation Officer
Conservationist
Ethanol Engineer
Forester
Geologist
Hydrologist
Irrigation Specialist
Logger
Restoration Specialist
Saltwater Husbandry
Technician
Sawmill Operator
Wildland Firefighter/
Fire Tower Watchman
Wind Substation Technician



Plant Science

Aerial Applicator/Ag Pilot

Agronomist

Agronomy Sales
and Management

Analytical Chemist

Arborist

Athletic Turf Manager

Bioinformatics Scientist

Biostatistician

Crop Adviser

Crop Scout

Crop Systems Specialist

Custom Applicator

Entomologist

Extension Faculty

Florist

Formulation Chemist

Golf Course Superintendent

Greenhouse Manager

Horticulturist

Laboratory Technician

Landscape Designer

Landscape Technician

Microbiologist

Molecular Biologist

Plant Biologist

Plant Breeder

Plant Geneticist

Plant Pathologist

Plant Scientist/Field
Agronomist

Regulatory Scientist

Research and
Development Manager

Research Associates

Research Station Manager

Research Technician

Row Crop Producer/Farmer

Seed Production Agronomist

Seed Production Technician

Soil Scientist

Viticulturist

Weed Scientist



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For more information, contact your county Extension office. Visit www.aces.edu/directory.

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