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Saskatoon Laboratory – Seed, Science, and Technology Section
Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
301-421 Downey Road, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada S7N 4L8
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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Trained to use morphology and taxonomy in seed identification with access to and the support of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's National Seed Herbarium.

Extensive experience in the application of diagnostic protocols for the purpose of supporting phytosanitary certification.

Trained and experienced at the working level as an analyst, inspector, and program officer to interpret and apply diagnostic protocols in the field and laboratory.

Experience managing field level operations and laboratory analysis with proven leadership and team building skills that allow for the efficient and consistent delivery of results.

Applied use of interactive communication skills with internal and external stakeholders to ensure the delivery of timely, accurate, and comprehensible results.

EDUCATION

B.Sc.Ag., Agronomy major (2007), College of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

B.A., English major (2003), College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Saskatoon, SK
Plant Health Unit Head (09/2016 – Present)
Saskatoon Laboratory - Seed Science and Technology Section
301-421 Downey Road, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 4L8, Canada

Leading a diagnostic unit with responsibility to interpret testing requirements, deliver results in an agreed upon time frame, manage staff and human resource issues, communicate with and meet the needs of internal and external clients, develop and maintain quality assurance documents to the ISO 17025 requirements, provide reference collections to internal and external clients, and develop new methods to manage workflow as necessary.

Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Saskatoon, SK
Acting Senior Agrologist-Plant Health (11/2015 – 09/2016)
Saskatoon District Office
201-421 Downey Road, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 4L8, Canada

Manage the plant health officers and support staff in Saskatchewan and Northern Alberta and ensure the delivery of services and enforcement of regulations in seed certification, seed potato, seed and grain exports, plant imports, and horticulture. Provide advice and briefings to regional management. Work with a multi-branch team to develop a national training initiative to ensure consistent delivery of grain and oilseed export inspections across the country.

Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Saskatoon, SK
Plant Health Program Officer (10/2011 – 11/2015)
Saskatoon District Office
201-421 Downey Road, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 4L8, Canada

Utilizing diagnostic protocols to support phytosanitary certification on a daily basis. Shared responsibility for grains and oilseeds and horticulture import and export program. Provide guidance to clerical staff to ensure the accuracy of documentation. Communicate daily with external clients to meet the requirements of the export industry. Required to manage heavy workload under time constraints to meet the needs of industry. Responsible to lead the delivery of seed potato inspection across Saskatchewan, provide advice to management on the program and flag issues of importance. Anticipate needs and challenges and communicate to management to allow for timely solutions.

Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Saskatoon, SK
Agriculture Inputs Inspector (06/2009 – 10/2011)
Saskatoon District Office
201-421 Downey Road, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 4L8, Canada

Trained in field inspection of certified seed and seed potatoes, delivered inspection services on a variety of imports and exports, work collaboratively with team to ensure inspection services are provided across Saskatchewan. Able to utilize available information make judgement calls in isolation. Willingness to adapt to varied work tasks and environments.

Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Saskatoon, SK
Seed Analyst Trainee (03/2008 – 06/2009)
Saskatoon District Office
201-421 Downey Road, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 4L8, Canada

Trained as a seed analyst to use morphological features and taxonomy to identify seeds. Worked collaboratively with team to move through training course and complete accreditation in germination. Interpret and apply lab protocols and quality assurance documents to ensure accurate testing results.

Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc., Saskatoon, SK
Field Research Assistant (Summer 2006, 04/2007 – 10/2007)
Saskatoon Office
101-421 Downey Road, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 4L8, Canada

Working in the laboratory to prepare for seeding and in field hands on with planting, irrigating, roguing, maintaining and harvesting breeder seed. Working in a variety of environments, adapting to needs of program as necessary.

Crop and Food Research, Lincoln, New Zealand
Field Research Assistant (01/2007 – 03/2007)
Crop and Field Research
74 Gerald Street, Lincoln, Christchurch, 7608, New Zealand

Working with plant breeders to maintain plots and harvest seed. Required attention to detail to ensure accuracy of seed lots and records. Demonstrated the flexibility to adapt to life and work in a foreign country.