

From: Marcus Duck <duckmarc@msu.edu>
Subject: 2010 Fafard
Date: November 11, 2010 9:52:21 AM GMT-05:00
To: Marcus Duck <duckmarc@msu.edu>



Dear Ornamental Horticulture Researchers/Educators:

Greetings from Anderson, SC. Certain B.S. or M.S. students in your teaching and research programs may have expressed interest in industry work experience. Conrad Fafard, Inc., a potting media company, is seeking research leaders for greenhouse and nursery trials in Connecticut; Long Island, NY; Ohio/western PA; Denver, CO; Dallas, TX; western NC; California (Gilroy area); south and central FL.

The research and development team will be focused on trialing new potting media formulas to help growers achieve healthy plants and profitable crops. Self-motivated, enthusiastic candidates will be responsible for establishing, conducting, and communicating research findings to Conrad Fafard management. Knowledge of nursery and greenhouse management and production practices and horticultural concepts is required. Individuals in these positions should also have experience with experimental data collection and management.

These positions will be internship-based with an attractive wage (\$15 to 18 per hour) for a 6 to 12-month period. Positions are available beginning January 2011 and interested candidates should electronically submit their resume and a list of 3 work/academic references by 10 December to jamie.gibson@fafard.com. Conrad Fafard, Inc. is also prepared to coordinate a structured internship program with university faculty. The position of Fafard Research Leader prepares horticulture professionals for full time, well paid positions in the horticulture industry or practical research and development experience for graduate school.

We had 10 research leaders in 2010; all had positive experiences with us. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Jamie Gibson at 1-800-722-7645 or email at jamie.gibson@fafard.com.

Thank you,
Jamie Gibson

**Research Leader
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Jamie Gibson
Research and Development Director

Conrad Fafard, Inc.

1471 Amity Rd.
Anderson, SC
29621
U.S.A.
phone +800 722 7645
direct 864 622 2382
fax 864 226 6008
mobile 864 314 6224
jamie.gibson@fafard.com
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Job Description

- Prepares research materials for trials and serves as regional research leader. Maintains records and supplies needed for all research activities by region.
- Conducts horticultural research in the nursery plot and/or greenhouse including physical plot preparation, data collection and plot maintenance to include mixing of potting soil, planting, labeling, special fertilizing, trimming, mechanical or chemical weed control. Prepares water, fertilizer, media, plant samples for pH, EC and macro and micronutrients analysis. ***Intern does not water, fertilize or apply pesticides to the research plot.***
- Uses Microsoft Excel, Adobe Photo Shop and PowerPoint to organize research data for analysis and presentation.
- Participates in the planning and coordination of grower visits in region. Works with sales representatives (pulling samples, public relations, and consultation)
- Creates a weekly report for each location and project.
- Maintains a log of work hours, grower contact hours, and travel hours and mileage.



FAFARD RESEARCH LEADER



A Mix of Science, Service and Technology

Research Leader Description

- Internships are 6 to 12 month experiences
- 40 hour work week, M-F, no overtime
- Hourly wage at \$15 to 18 per hour
- Benefits offered
- Monthly cell phone and internet allowance provided
- Laptop provided for data management



Program Objectives

- To evaluate different raw materials used to manufacture soilless substrates
- To evaluate different “value-added” substrate amendments including controlled release fertilizers, water-absorbing polymers and biological agents.
- To prepare horticulture professionals for full time, well paid positions in the industry.
- To provide post-baccalaureates with research and development experience for graduate school.

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