Job Opening

Bardenhagen Berries
7990 E. Horn Road, Lake Leelanau, MI 49653
Tel: 231-271-3026

Position: Farm Hand

Background:
Bardenhagen Berries is a 180 acre family farm, started in 1873, and currently operated by the fifth generation. The farm is well known in the community for producing high quality fruit, particularly strawberries and sweet cherries. The farm has approximately 21 acres of strawberries, 50 acres of cherries, 1 acre of blackberries, and, as of 2015, 1 1/2 acres of vegetables and cut-flowers. The farm utilizes integrated pest management for fruit crops, and is the process of becoming certified organic for vegetable and flower crops. The farm is also verified by the Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) and participates in the Michigan Safe Food Risk Assessment.

Position Description:
A team of three to four Farm Hands (part-time and/or full-time), play an important role in overall success of the farm. Farm Hands provide support to production and harvest of crops (primarily strawberries and cherries, but may also include vegetables and flowers). Examples of activities include moving harvest ladders and containers (lugs, pails, etc.), stacking fruit on pallets, assisting with cherry shaking crew, loading and unloading vehicles, communicating with Fruit Pickers, sorting fruit, and delivery of fruit to wholesale customers. There are also a multitude of other miscellaneous jobs (e.g. pruning, planting, weeding, mowing, managing irrigation, mulching, trellising, washing, recordkeeping, etc.). Farm Hands must be highly motivated, flexible, and able to work both independently and as part of a team. Work may at times be physically strenuous and/or performed in undesirable weather; a worker with good physical health and a positive attitude will perform well in this work environment. Depending on previous experience and skills, Farm Hands may participate in driving tractors, and/or operating machinery. This is a seasonally recurring hourly position extending from May or June into mid-August. (Additional opportunities may extend earlier or later.) This position is appropriate for individuals interested in food production, working outdoors, and being part of a team dedicated to producing high quality produce. The Farm Operators will work with Farm Hands to achieve any personal learning goals for the season, to satisfy internship requirements and/or for personal growth.

Desired Qualifications:
- Previous experience in farming or gardening.
- Good physical health; able to lift 30 lbs and work an eight to ten hour day.
- Ability to work independently, as well as part of a team.
- Detail oriented & pride in the quality of one’s work.
- Ability to clearly communicate & follow verbal and written instructions.
- Drivers License valid in State of Michigan.
- Previous experience driving tractors and/or operating farm machinery is not required but would be a definite plus.

Compensation: $8.50-10/hr, based on previous experience. Negotiable. Possible end of season bonus, based on performance and completion of season.
When: A commitment for strawberry and cherry harvest (mid June to early August) is desired. Depending on experience, and ability to work independently, additional work opportunities are available starting as soon as April and as late as October. Except for during strawberry harvest, the standard work day starts at 8 AM.

To Apply: Download a job application from [www.bardenhagen.com](http://www.bardenhagen.com), and/or send cover letter and resume to Bardenhagen Berries, 7990 E. Horn Road, Lake Leelanau, MI 49653 or berries@bardenhagen.com.