NEAL MAST & SON GREENHOUSES, INC. - JOB DESCRIPTION

DEPARTMENT: RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

LOCATION: 6564 PEACH RIDGE ROAD NW

JOB TITLE: SEASONAL TRIALING ASSISTANT

REPORTS TO: R&D MANAGER

CONTACT: Please email résumé to laura.robles@mastyoungplants.com

HOURS: # HOURS/WEEK: Pay is based on 45 hours week – willing to work additional hours and weekends as necessary.

STARTING DATE: April or May

TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS: Occasional travel may be required between facilities.

EDUCATION / WORK EXPERIENCE / SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability to rely on experience and judgment to accomplish goals.
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively in English (verbal and written). Ability to communicate in Spanish a plus but not required.
- Basic math and calculation skills.
- Basic understanding of Microsoft Office.
- Greenhouse experience is a plus.
- Chemical applicator’s license a plus but not required.

ROLE DESCRIPTION:

The trialing assistant will be responsible for helping to grow and care for plant material for the breeder trial gardens and the Mast Young Plants display garden in the greenhouse leading up to planting of the gardens. After the gardens are planted, the primary responsibility will be growing and caring for the breeder trial gardens and/or other outdoor trials; and assisting with photography and data collection associated with the gardens. The assistant may help as needed with indoor trials as well.
ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES:

Greenhouse and outdoor trials
- Twice daily (at minimum) inspections of trial areas for water needs.
- Scout for disease and insect problems and apply chemicals as directed by R&D manager.
- Assist with pinching and transplanting as needed.
- pH and EC testing as needed.
- Assist with trial photography as needed.

Trial Garden (starting from planting of trial garden)
- Walk trial garden at least twice daily to check for water requirements and ensure that drip irrigation ran as set up.
- Monitor drip system for leaks, twists and other issues.
- Mix fertilizer as needed (often daily during peak watering times).
- Scout for disease and insect problems on daily walk-throughs and apply chemicals as needed to treat/prevent disease and insect problems, as directed by R&D manager.
- Apply additional/supplemental fertilizers as needed.
- Assist with weekly photography and any additional photography requested by breeders.
- Assist with any data collection requested by breeders.

Office (as needed and during inclement weather)
- Assist with downloading and naming photographs.
- Utilize Adobe Photoshop to edit photos.
- Additional office tasks as required.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

- Must be able to drive between locations.
- Must be able to lift/carry up to 50 lbs.
- Must be able to stand/walk for long periods of time.
- Must be willing and able to apply chemicals through backpack or hand sprayers, and possibly the occasional use of a large high-pressure sprayer.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Work environment includes greenhouse, office and outdoor growing space/trial gardens.