Nursery Technician II
Class Code 0703
Date Established 04-30-76
Date Revised 01-01-78
Occupation Index Reference A-2

DEFINITION:
Under general supervision, supervises or performs all work activities related to the greenhouse, headhouse, lathhouse and field planting operations of an ornamental horticultural program; assists instructional faculty in the setting up and conducting of laboratory and landscaping classes; and provides guidance and assistance to students working on enterprise projects.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:
The Nursery Technician II is distinguished from the Nursery Technician I class on the basis that the Nursery Technician II class typically includes responsibility for supervising a small number of employees, performing work assignments with a greater degree of independence and providing advice and guidance to students working on enterprise projects. The Nursery Technician I, on the other hand, supervises other employees on an occasional basis, performs ornamental horticulture work under direct supervision and has only limited contact with students.

Examples of Typical Activities:
Incumbents of positions in this class supervise or perform work activities such as soil preparation, planting, watering, feeding, transplanting, balling, grafting, cutting and pruning of plants and shrubs in support of an ornamental horticultural program. The Nursery Technician II provides assistance to faculty members by setting up equipment and test plots, collecting and organizing specified materials (plant and shrub specimens for use in the laboratory) and by performing laboratory demonstrations. Incumbents of positions in this class are responsible for managing the on-campus retail sales outlets for the distribution of campus-grown cut flowers, plants and shrubs. Incumbents of positions in this class also are responsible for providing advice and guidance to students working on enterprise projects and for serving as resource persons in the resolution of problems related to practical aspects of ornamental horticulture.

As necessary, incumbents of positions in this class may supervise or perform minor construction, maintenance and repair work on physical facilities and utility systems in support of the ornamental horticultural program.

Incumbents of positions in this class requisition supplies and materials required in the operation of the ornamental horticultural program and maintain production, feeding, chemical use, irrigation, sales and operating expense records.
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledges and Abilities:
Thorough knowledge of plant varieties and the plant classification system, and principles of plant biology and ornamental horticulture; thorough practical knowledge of plant propagation and hybridization methods, soil preparation and planting techniques, and cutting, pruning, and transplanting techniques; familiarity with specialized greenhouse, nursery and landscaping equipment operation and repair; general knowledge of basic business principles, sales accounting and business mathematics.

Ability to supervise students in the propagation and care of plants and structural building maintenance and repair; ability to manage the operations of a small-scale retail sales outlet, and to deal cost effectively with wholesale interests in the buying and selling of nursery stock; ability to maintain clear and concise production, chemical use, breeding, and sales records; ability to coordinate the practical aspects of the ornamental horticultural program with the academic program and the student learning process; ability to establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with students, faculty and the public.

Experience:
Three years of progressively responsible experience in a research-oriented greenhouse operation or in diversified commercial or landscaping work. (Additional job-related education may be substituted for the required experience on a year-for-year basis for up to two years of required experience.)

Education:
Equivalent to 60 semester or 90 quarter units of academic work at a four-year college or university, with emphasis in botany, plant science, landscape design or similar course work. (Additional specialized experience which has demonstrated that the applicant has acquired and successfully applied the knowledges and abilities shown above may be substituted for the required education on a year-for-year basis.)

Work Week Group: 4B
Premium O/T: No
Shift Differential: No
Employee Category: Non-Academic