

Part-time Farm Manager, Guru Ram Das Orchards

Job Summary

Part-time Farm Manager—responsible for assisting with all field production, attending one farmer’s market a week, and managing the value-added workflow for the farm. 20 hours/week, 50 weeks/year. Expect 30-hour work weeks when larger value-added projects are scheduled. Compensation commensurate with skills and experience, \$15-20/hr. 2 weeks paid vacation.

Roles and Responsibilities

Fieldwork: Wednesday and Friday mornings, 5 hours/day. See chart below.

Sales/Operations:

- Assist with Marin Civic Center farmer’s market in San Rafael—Thursdays, 5am-3pm.
- On fieldwork days, operations management would also include:
 - tool/equipment care
 - local deliveries
 - recordkeeping
 - materials inventory/order requests

Value-Added Management: (mostly during W/F farm mornings, occasional Tuesdays)

- Create schedule/workflow for preserving and drying fruit.
- Prepare all fruit for processing and storage.
- Prompt co-workers to complete steps in the workflow.
- Keep complete records and manage inventory.
- Maintain clean storage conditions, adhere to food safety protocols.
- Occasional Tuesday workdays for marmalade, jam, and other larger projects.

Fieldwork varies seasonally, as follows:

	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Harvest	-navels -lemons -mandarins -grapefruit	-mulberries -apricots -early figs	-stone fruit -figs -pears	-pomegranates -persimmons -early citrus
Fieldwork	-pruning -composting -mulching -dormant spraying -sanitation -soil tests/fertility	-fruit thinning -irrigation setup -IPM, monitoring -weed control -sanitation	-irrigation -IPM, monitoring -weed control -sanitation	-pruning -composting -mulching -dormant spraying -sanitation -soil tests/fertility -setup irrigation for frost control
Value-Added	-marmalade -citrus preservation	-dried goods -jams and sauces -fruit leathers	-dried stone fruit/figs -vinegars/ferments	-pear/persimmon post-harvest and drying. -tea/tisanes -baked goods

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Desired Skills and Qualifications

- Strong communication
- Total commitment to seeing a job through to completion, including clean-up.
- Highly organized, great with recordkeeping
- Proactive, problem-solver, systems thinker
- 2 years experience in agricultural fieldwork; orchard experience preferred
- Valid California Driver's License
- Tractor experience a plus— otherwise, must be willing to learn
- Basic understanding of irrigation, fertility and pest management in organic systems
- Flexible with taking direction and working independently
- Commitment to best practices in organic agriculture
- Ability to strictly adhere to food safety and infectious disease protocols. (*Strong preference for candidates with awareness/sensitivity for how small, direct-market farms are impacted by these issues.*)

Working Conditions

Must be able to lift 50lbs.

Must be able to sit and stand for extended periods of time.

About the Farm

Guru Ram Das Orchards is a 9-acre, certified organic orchard in the hills behind Esparto, CA. We harvest 40+ varieties of citrus, stone fruit, figs, pears, pomegranates and persimmons year-round. The farm is run by partners Abbie and Joanna. We sell directly to SF Bay Area consumers, including many chefs and restaurateurs, in the Marin and Berkeley farmers markets. We also sell through our local food hub and to the Davis Food Cooperative.

How to Apply

Email resume with cover letter and two references to farm@fruitculture.org

Attn: Abbie and Joanna