

Our client is Canadian owned and operated Agri-business with production, processing, and research and development operations across Canada. As the new Agriculture Research and Development Manager, you will oversee the R&D program and focus on three main pillars: innovation, variety development and technical support to seed and commercial growers. This collaborative leadership role works from the company's world-class research breeding facility in the Maritimes that is connected to a North American network of public and private partners. Be responsible for strategic project development of new technologies that support business objectives, the potato variety program and extension with primary producers.

Agriculture Research and Development Manager

Prince Edward Island

Reporting to the Director of Research, Breeding and Seed Development, you will:

- Develop new processing potato varieties, transfer new techniques for seed and commercial production with the R&D team, managing the day-to-day tasks of two full-time reports and seasonal labour
- Work with private and public, provincial and federal, breeding and agriculture institutions to obtain new promising potato varieties for testing and distribution to growers
- Assist the development, direction and management of R&D programs to meet organizational needs, long-term objectives and to capitalize on potential new products
- Develop and implement R&D procedures and techniques, while overseeing complex research projects, data analysis, and provide recommendations based on results and findings to the senior leadership team
- Implement protocols, screen and qualify new potato varieties to get more adapted varieties with high field yield potential to support the business on raw material cost reduction
- Train and coach R&D and breeding staff to create a culture of teamwork and collaboration, sharing good practices, technical and business information across the organization to optimize field productivity and quality
- Contribute to the management of the Ag Research Program by conducting research trials, reporting all technical advances, new technologies and products to generate solutions for potato production systems
- Determine the scope of research projects and manage them to ensure accurate data, budget adherence, and timely dissemination of findings and reports to the leadership team that align with project milestones and goals

Your background includes:

- A Bachelor's degree in Agriculture, Plant Science or Biology; an MSc is an asset in a related field
- 5+ years' experience working in field crop research; potato research strongly preferred in field and greenhouse
- 2+ years of management experience in the Agricultural industry, managing multiple reports and seasonal staff
- Have strong leadership skills, technical and business knowledge, with the ability to make business decisions
- Strong project management experience, with the ability to see the big picture and envision projects from start to finish, managing and collaborating with external partners including research institutions
- Excellent communication skills and a track record of internal and external stakeholder management, paired with the ability to work with a diverse team including field workers and the organization's top executives
- Proven ability to think outside the box and demonstrate creativity with a keen eye for detail
- A deadline drive approach to work with the ability to handle pressure during busy seasons (spring/fall)

Extended hours during planting and harvesting including weekends, with some travel inside and outside of Canada.

LITHERLAND & CO

To learn more about this position and our client, contact Brook Coatsworth at bmc@litherlandco.com or by phone at 416-868-4888 Ext. 5, quoting "**Agriculture R&D Manager - #200617**" for further info.