



## **POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Agronomy/Cropping Systems Specialist**

The National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) is a private non-profit organization that works to foster and promote sustainable technologies and systems, especially for the benefit of economically disadvantaged individuals and communities. NCAT is looking for someone that wants to use his/her agronomic education and experience to help U.S. farmers and ranchers. You will work directly with farmers and ranchers to address their questions on raising agronomic crops sustainably. This is a regular, full-time position providing an excellent opportunity to work with a dedicated and professional staff on national projects. The position will be based in NCAT's Butte, Montana office.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** This is an excellent opportunity for the ideal candidate with a combination of education and experience in agronomic cropping systems, including soil fertility and pest management. Minimum requirements include farm-based experience with a background in agronomy, soil fertility, weed ecology, crop rotations, economics or a related field in agriculture. A BS or MS degree or equivalent in one of these fields is also required.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Work directly with farmers and ranchers (including those with large field scale crops) to provide sustainable cropping systems information including: management of soil fertility, weeds, water and pests, crop rotations (including organic systems).
- Research technical information on sustainable agriculture production and marketing topics
- Prepare publications, topical summaries, bibliographies, workshop materials and website postings while targeting a variety of audiences of varying degrees of technical knowledge
- Communicate via email, telephone, and in person to gather and disseminate information to farmers and ranchers
- Work with other sustainable agriculture specialists to identify participant needs and appropriate delivery methods
- Assist in project development activities
- May attend conferences, workshops, seminars, and related events in support of project duties

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED:** NCAT is a mission driven organization and the successful candidate must be fully supportive of its mission. Demonstrated interest and knowledge about promoting sustainable agriculture is required. Excellent communication skills, including public speaking, writing and proposal development are very important in this position. Must be able to travel. In addition to training and farm experience with cropping systems, experience with production or marketing of organic or biodynamic agronomic crops is desirable.

**SALARY AND BENEFITS:** Salary range is \$25,000 - \$36,000 depending on qualifications and experience. Excellent benefits include paid vacation and holidays, health, life and disability insurance, a cafeteria and 401(k) plan and a pleasant, professional office environment.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:** This is an exciting opportunity to develop a career in sustainable agriculture. If you are interested in providing practical advice, have the right education and practical on-farm experience, please apply. Applicants will be accepted through May 1, 2008 or until a suitable candidate can be identified. Early applications are encouraged and applications will be considered as they are received. All persons interested in being considered for the position must submit a cover letter highlighting their experience and skills relevant to the listed qualifications, a current resume and a completed NCAT application form. For further information or to receive an application form, please contact Therese McClafferty in the Butte, MT office at (406)494-4572, email: [theresem@ncat.org](mailto:theresem@ncat.org). Incomplete applications or references on the application to “see resume” will not be considered. Applicants can visit NCAT’s website at [www.ncat.org](http://www.ncat.org) for a gateway to websites and projects developed by NCAT staff. Send completed application material to Therese McClafferty, NCAT Personnel Office, P.O. Box 3838, Butte, MT 59702.

**Note:** This general job description reflects the job duties, knowledge and skills typically needed for this type of position. It is not all-inclusive and other duties may be assigned to the position to facilitate a productive working environment.

It is NCAT’s policy and organizational philosophy to ensure that all of our employment practices, including recruitment and hiring, are administered for all individuals without regard to color, race, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status.

## **National Center for Appropriate Technology Mission Statement**

Helping people by championing small-scale, local, and sustainable solutions to reduce poverty, promote healthy communities, and protect natural resources.

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### NCAT Regional Offices:

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