January 3, 2022

POSITION    Hydroponic Production Manager
LOCATION    Southwest Pennsylvania
JOB TYPE    Full-time
COMPENSATION    Salaried, commensurate with experience

ABOUT US
Rivendale Farms is a 300+ acre property located in Bulger, Pennsylvania - about 30 minutes outside of Pittsburgh. In addition to approximately 5 acres of mixed fruit orchards and 2 acres of outdoor field space producing seasonal mixed berries, vegetables, and herbs, our ½ acre greenhouse produces year-round tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers, leafy greens, and berries. Our full acreage also houses several residences for staff and guests, riding trails, and pastureland and barns for a wide array of animals and livestock including horses, cattle, pigs, chickens, elk, bison, and sheep.

JOB DESCRIPTION
We are expanding our hydroponic growing systems for the 2022 season and are looking to hire someone to oversee all day to day growing in this area. This position will work closely with and report to the Crop Production Manager to plan and implement the year-round crop plan, supplying our 15-20 person year-round farm share program and the in-house Rivendale culinary team.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES
● Consistent succession planning for year-round production for tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, leafy greens, and berries
● Ongoing management of greenhouse climate controls (lights, fertilizer injectors, fans, ventilation, and heaters) to ensure best growing parameters are maintained year round
● Weekly seeding, transplanting and harvesting of leafy greens and herbs
● Weekly harvesting, pruning and trellising of peppers, cucumbers, and tomatoes
● Weekly pruning and harvesting of strawberries, raspberries, and blueberries.
● Regular pest scouting and identification. Work with the Crop Production Manager to implement appropriate IPM strategies in all indoor growing areas. Spraying may sometimes be required if pest populations are not resolved using alternative methods.
● Ongoing cleaning and maintenance of hydroponic greenhouses to maintain clean systems that function consistently and reliably (will include managing algae growth, cleaning filters, cleaning and sanitizing equipment and growing spaces, removing all pruned material, maintaining clean work environment, etc.)
● Willingness to work with and supervise other crew members in greenhouse growing
● Other duties as needed throughout the seasons to support other members of the crop production team

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
● 3+ years relevant growing experience or education required; growing in an indoor growing environment with mixed vegetables and fruits strongly preferred
● Extensive knowledge of the following: seeding, crop planning, irrigation, pest management, harvesting for market
● Able to pass a background check
● Must be fully vaccinated as currently defined by the CDC
● Must be a hard-working team player with an energetic and positive attitude
● Able to work in all weather conditions, and work on a ladder as needed.
● Able to lift 80 lbs.
● Have or be willing to acquire a private applicators license.
● Able and willing to operate a backpack sprayer as part of pest control practices.
● Able to stand for extended periods of time.
● All applicants should be comfortable around livestock (including chickens, pigs, Great Pyrenees dogs, and cattle) and typical farm machinery.