



## **Apiculturist**

Perennia's mission is supporting growth, transformation and economic development in Nova Scotia's agriculture, seafood, and food and beverage sectors. We are looking for a talented, innovative professional with an understanding and expertise in honey bee production.

Perennia has an opening for a full-time Apiculturist based in our Truro office that services the Maritimes and is a member of the Atlantic Tech Transfer Team for Apiculture (ATTA). The primary focus for this position is a comprehensive extension and applied research program that will assist Maritime Beekeepers increase pollination capability, enhance the skill needed to improve hive health and productivity, enhance competitiveness and create new opportunities.

A key component of this position is to assist the ATTTA team lead with research and extension projects for honey bees and pollination by working collaboratively with beekeepers and blueberry growers throughout the Maritime provinces. Knowledge transfer to the beekeeping and blueberry industries through delivering workshops, conducting farm visits, conducting field trials, collecting and analyzing data, engaging with growers and beekeepers and writing research reports are all tasks expected of this position.

ATTTA works with multiple industry partners and a good understanding of the beekeeping and wild blueberry sectors is necessary for this position. The ideal candidate will have a background in extension and/or research in agriculture, particularly in these sectors.

### **Principal Responsibilities:**

The successful candidate will be able to conduct field work (includes working directly with honey bee colonies and lifting heavy objects), engage with beekeepers and blueberry growers at meetings and events, assist with research projects, and work with the Atlantic Tech Transfer Team for Apiculture through five objectives: optimize pollination in wild blueberry; improve overwintering success; improve honey bee health and nutrition; improve disease and pest monitoring and management; and optimize regional queens and biosecurity.



### **The ideal candidate will possess:**

- Minimum of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture or Biology or related field of study; must be eligible for Professional Agrologist status; background of study in bees or pollination; background in research is an asset.
- At least 2 years working in an agricultural sector in research and/or extension or at least 3 years working hands-on with honey bees. On the job training is provided.
- Background in working hands-on with honey bees, writing research reports and grant applications, literature review experience, presenting data to the general public, designing presentations and workshops, collecting and sampling honey bees, designing and executing research projects, statistical analysis, working collaboratively, experience with laboratory work would be an asset.
- Experience working with pollinators, particularly honey bees.
- Ability to plan and organize field work.
- Team player.
- Research experience
- Presentation and teaching skills.
- Strong writing skills essential.
- Able to conduct field research, lift heavy objects (hives).
- Strong communication.
- Familiarity with the following topics/ projects: Queen honey bees, pollination, nosema, bee nutrition, varroa mites, other bee diseases and pest.
- Familiarity with beekeeping industry and wild blueberry industry, specifically pollination.
- Experience in writing reports and grant/research applications is advantageous.
- Background in statistics and experimental design is advantageous.
- Able to work with flexible schedule and remote travel.
- Ability to prioritize, multitask and resolve problems efficiently and effectively.
- Superior Microsoft Office Suite skills with an emphasis on Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Perennia offers a competitive compensation package based on the candidate's skill and experience. This includes base salary, benefits, employer matching RRSP plan, flexible schedules, personal days and three weeks' vacation to start.

**To apply for this exciting new position at Perennia, please email a combined PDF or Word cover letter and resume noting compensation expectations to [jmacmullin@perennia.ca](mailto:jmacmullin@perennia.ca) by noon on November 09, 2020.** Please also include or link to any knowledge transfer materials you feel would support your application package.



Only e-mail applications will be accepted. Thank you to all who apply but only those granted interviews will be contacted. For more information about Perennia visit our website at [www.perennia.ca](http://www.perennia.ca).

Perennia is an Equal Opportunity Employer