*STEM Careers in Agricultural and Natural Resources*

*Find a person in the agricultural field and conduct an interview over email. Try and start with someone you may know locally or move to university websites to find professors or other professionals. Understand that this is a crazy time for everyone, and some people may not answer right away or at all so find a few professionals to interview in case one falls through. This worksheet is meant to be a guide and extra questions should be developed by you to personalize your interview.*

Name of Scientist:

Email/Contact Information:

Career Profile (Job Title):

Careers that they worked at leading up to their current career:

Similar or Related Careers:

Education Requirements/Recommendations:

Pay (starting and pay range):

Geography (where career is available):

Description (duties, challenges, perks, what does a typical day/week look like):

Strategies/Key Steps (What would a HS student need to do to get to this career goal, this will be displayed visually as a roadmap so be specific):

Profile of Person in the Field (excepts, interesting facts stories from a person in this job, could be a short story, what they love about their job or quote):

Other information (Please attach a photo of the person being interviewed, and up to two others of career in action):

EXAMPLE:

*STEM Careers in Agricultural and Natural Resources*

Name of Scientist:

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| --- |
| Kristopher Elliott, Graduate Student OSU |

Email/Contact Information:

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| --- |
| kris.elliott@oregonstate.edu |

Career Profile (Job Title):

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| --- |
| Agriculture Teacher |

Similar/Related Careers:

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| --- |
| Science Teacher  Extension Agent |

Education Requirements/Recommendations:

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| 4 Year Degree, Required in Agriculture or Related Field  Teaching Credential  Master’s Degree Recommended  Oregon State University, Washington State University, University of Idaho, BYU-Idaho |

Pay (starting and pay range):

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| --- |
| $39,000- $75,000 |

Geography (where career is available):

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| --- |
| Urban and Rural in Pacific Northwest and Beyond |

Description (duties, challenges, perks, what does a typical day/week look like):

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| Work full time during typical academic school year, teaching various agriculture courses. Courses range from science-based courses to production agriculture and mechanics courses depending on school. FFA coaching and leadership activities and supervision of student projects (SAE’s). Some positions involve summer requirements and pay for fair and school farm/learning lab responsibilities. Great opportunity to work with students in an exciting fast paced workplace—travel and community involvement are definite perks. Benefits (health and retirement) are very good in most districts. Very diverse types of jobs available to meet strengths of teacher, depending on the district. Starting pay may be lower than private sector job but will increase with years of service. Many jobs available throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond, many unfilled jobs exist. |

Strategies/Key Steps (What would a HS student need to do to get to this career goal):

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| Become active and involved in high school FFA or 4-H program. Get experience in agriculture through research or work experience. Maintain strong GPA in order to apply to university program, or attend a community college and transfer to university with associate degree to save time and money. Pursue agriculture degree at university and apply to Ag Education credential/graduate program. Use summers to continue to gain agriculture experience. Become active in college agriculture leadership organizations (Collegiate FFA, Agriculture Council/Exec, Dairy Club, etc.). Visit local agriculture programs and volunteer, observe teachers, assist with contests and fairs. |

Profile of Person in the Field (excepts, interesting facts stories from a person in this job, could be a short story, what they love about their job or quote):

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| “One of the most rewarding aspects of my job is getting to see the looks on students’ faces when the light bulb turns on, and something clicks in their head when they ‘get it’, for me these are some of the most rewarding days as a teacher.” “I like to help students achieve more than they ever thought was possible.”  Jane Doe-Agriculture Teacher at Mythical High School |

Other information (feel free to attach any other interesting/useful information students may find interesting, photos):

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| There are many myths about teaching agriculture, below are a few common ones:  I wasn’t in FFA, so I can’t teach Ag (not true, many successful ag teachers were never in FFA or came from an ag background).  Teacher pay is lousy (actually, the average teacher pay is pretty good when compared to other jobs, especially when one factors in the great benefits).  There are no jobs, teachers are getting cut (Ag teaching jobs are in HUGE demand in the Pacific Northwest and nationwide. For the last few years, there have been several unfilled positions in our region due to a lack of qualified applicants).  t West Montgomery High School in Troy, agriculture teacher Joseph Gaddy (above, center) plants knowldege that he hopes will be beneficial to the lives of young people.  (Photo by Herman Lankford) |