



POSITION

- **WG-5031-04 Insect Production Worker**

SALARY

- **\$17.52 to \$25.69 per Hour**

Salary will vary based on location. New Hires to the federal government normally start at the lowest rate of the salary range for the grade and location selected.

PROGRAM AREA

- **Plant Protection and Quarantine, Field Operations, Multiple Districts**

DUTY LOCATION

- **Multiple – Phoenix, AZ; Edinburg, TX; Harlingen, TX; Sarasota, FL**

WORK SCHEDULE

- **Full-time**

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT

- **Term Appointments** - 13 Month initial appointment, may be extended up to a total of 4 years.
- **Permanent Appointments** - Some locations may have *Permanent* positions available.

NUMBER OF VACANCIES

- **Multiple at all locations**

TRAVEL REQUIRED

- **No**

REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a US Citizen or US National.
- Subject to satisfactory adjudication of background investigation and/or fingerprint check.
- Successful completion of one-year trial period or probationary period as applicable.
- Direct Deposit: Per Public Law 104-134 all Federal employees are required to have federal payments made by direct deposit to their financial institution.
- Individuals who were born male after 12/31/1959 must be Selective Service registered or exempt.
- Successfully pass the E-Verify employment verification check. To learn more about E-Verify, including your rights and responsibilities, visit E-Verify at <https://www.e-verify.gov/>

WHO MAY APPLY

Non-competitive Hiring Authorities. Veterans – VRA or 30% or More Disabled Veterans, Schedule A (persons with disabilities), Military Spouses, Peace Corps or VISTA Volunteers.

OVERVIEW

APHIS is a multi-faceted Agency with a broad mission area that includes protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act, and conducting

wildlife damage management activities. These efforts support the overall mission of USDA, which is to protect and promote food, agriculture, natural resources, and related issues. Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) is a program within APHIS which safeguards U.S. agriculture and natural resources against the entry, establishment, and spread of economically and environmentally significant pests, and facilitates the safe trade of agricultural products. Join our team and gain valuable experience working in the field to stop this invasive species from harming our nation's agriculture.

This position performs routine, repetitive assignments involved in insect mass production, packaging, storing, sterilization, and delivering of insects, and is also involved in the cleaning, disinfection, and maintenance of work areas in support of the insect production program in a designated state/Duty Station.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Depending on the needs of the specific duty station assigned, the incumbent may perform any combination of or all the following duties on a regular and recurring basis:

- Operates and/or synchronizes multiple pieces of equipment for the establishment of the colony.
- Follows egg disinfection and preparation protocols to establish rearing colony.
- Prepares and weighs out different rearing media and diet ingredients using different scales.
- Provides feed to insects, controls temperature and humidity, and harvests pupae or adults, records collection data.
- Separates insects into categories such as sex and/or species and controls them to prevent escape or intermingling.
- Observes insect collections for obvious changes of life cycles, deaths, and general activity, and reports observations to the supervisor.
- Performs set-up, servicing, maintenance, tear-down, and cleaning and disinfection of egg layer containers.
- Keeps all work areas and equipment clean and aides in the setup and preparation for the next day's duties.
- Performs irradiation and irradiation monitoring of insects prior to shipping and puts the information into storage and/or a database.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants for this position must have a high school education. Secondary course work or experience in biological sciences is preferred but is not required. A background check is required.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are required to submit the following items for consideration gary.a.rakow@usda.gov. ***Please list the Position Title in the subject line.***

- Applicants are required to submit the following items for consideration.
- Resume that includes: 1) personal information such as name, address, contact information; 2) education; 3) detailed work experience related to this position as described in the major duties including work schedule, hours worked per week, dates of employment; title, series, grade (if applicable); 4) other qualifications or certifications; and 5) supervisors name and phone number for each work period listed and whether or not they may be contacted for reference checks.
- When claiming Veterans' preference, you must submit a DD214, Certificate of Release from Active Duty, which shows dates of service and discharge under honorable conditions. If currently on active duty you must submit a certification of expected discharge or release from active-duty service under honorable conditions within 120 days after the date the certification is submitted.
- Disabled Veterans must also submit a VA Disability Letter (if applicable) for verification of service-connected disability.
- Schedule A candidates must include a Schedule A Letter for eligible disabled persons. To be eligible for Schedule A, you must provide a proof of a disability letter stating that you have an intellectual disability,

severe physical disability, or psychiatric disability. You can get this letter from your doctor, a licensed medical professional, a licensed vocational rehabilitation specialist or any federal, state, or local agency that issues or provides disability benefits. Letter must be on office Letterhead.

- Military Spouses must provide a copy of: Spouse ID card, Copy of Active-Duty spouses military orders, and marriage certificate.
- Peace Corps or VISTA Volunteers must provide their NCE letter.
- Must submit a copy of Transcripts if qualifying with education as listed in qualifications section. Transcripts can be unofficial but, if selected, candidates will be required to submit official transcripts before start date.

[Equal Opportunity \(EEO\) Policy](#)

[Reasonable Accommodation Policy](#)

[Privacy Act](#)