

**East Side Mosquito Abatement District
2000 Santa Fe Ave, Modesto, CA 95357**

VECTOR BIOLOGIST

Definition

The Vector Biologist works under the general direction of and reports to the District Manager, conducts and assists with more complex planning and coordination of field surveys; coordinates with lead field staff for effective mosquito control; executes various aspects of the District's technical program, applying knowledge associated with the scientific disciplines of entomology, biology, ecology, epidemiology, and microbiology.

Class Characteristics

This is a full-time, year-round position classified as non-exempt responsible for day-to-day implementation of the District's field surveillance and laboratory programs. Conduct tests on the efficacy of mosquito control products; integrate district data sets to generate surveillance and control maps for staff and public; and provide supervision and instructions, from either under direction from the District Manager or independently, to laboratory, field and temporary staff.

Typical Tasks

Implements mosquito and arbovirus surveillance programs and special projects, including but not limited to larval sampling and identification, mosquito trapping, identification and testing, and dead bird testing. Records and compiles surveillance data and assists in analysis and sharing with the district, affiliated agencies, and the public. Assists staff with implementing the integrated vector management programs including reviewing thresholds, procedures and response plans, assists with regular evaluations of mosquito control procedures; assists with development of field sampling and data recording procedures, communicates regularly with operational staff to coordinate field activities.

Under direction to set laboratory operations, train laboratory employees; identify, procure and purchase required equipment; assist in maintenance of mosquito cultures and insectary, and conduct testing of mosquito-borne arboviruses. Assists with development and implementation of independent and collaborative applied research projects that support the district's mission. In addition, assists with development, review or revision of informational pamphlets, literature and website content.

Under direction performs biological tests on the efficacy of application of control products; investigates resistance of mosquitoes to control products used and recommend changes accordingly; liaise with other agencies on such programs to make district's control programs are effective. Assist staff to prepare and pass the State Certification examinations of vector control and coordinate with statewide organization for continuing education program. Participates in the conduct of the District's outreach and community education programs.

Minimum Qualifications:

Education: A Bachelor's degree in entomology, public health, biological sciences, or any related field from a four-year college. A Master's in any of the above field is an added advantage.

Experience: Two (2) years of full time paid experience in the field of mosquito and vector control, college or university, public agency or private industry related to field biology.

General Knowledge and Ability: Ability to read, analyze, and interpret common scientific and technical journals, professional journals, technical procedures, and government regulations. Ability to write reports, correspondence, and training materials. Ability to respond to common inquiries or complaints from constituents, regulatory agencies, or members of the professional community. Ability to effectively present information to management, public groups, and Board of Trustees.

Ability to apply principles of logical or scientific thinking to a wide range of intellectual and practical problems. Ability to deal with nonverbal symbolism (formulas, scientific equations, graphs, etc.). Ability to deal with a variety of abstract and concrete variables, probability and statistical inference.

Ability to pass pre-employment physical and drug test, and ability to lift up to 40 pounds.

Must have a valid California driver's license with a good driving record and be insurable using the accepted guidelines of the insurance provider.

All categories (A, B, C and D) of Vector Control Certifications issued by California Department of Public Health in areas of mosquito control, vertebrate and invertebrate vector control within two years of employment.

Possible Working Conditions:

The incumbent may be exposed to chemical products, biological toxins, vector-borne and other disease agents and health hazards, inclement weather conditions, and verbal confrontations from members of the public. The incumbent may be required to work non-standard work schedules including evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Equal Employment Opportunity

It is the policy of the District to provide equal employment opportunity to all applicants. All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or sexual orientation.

Employment Conditions:

Fair Labor Standards Act Overtime: Non-exempt, receives overtime compensation.

Appointment and Removal Authority: District Manager.

Specifications Approved by: Board of Trustees on March 8, 2022