

2021 PANJ TACF Outreach and Traveling Data Analysis Intern
Position Description

Overview of Position

For almost 40 years, TACF has been working to restore the American chestnut to its original range. Current research is focused on developing early screening and genomic selection methods to accelerate selection for disease resistance and on increasing genetic diversity from American chestnut represented in the breeding program. TACF is seeking an intern for summer 2021 to contribute to these efforts. Working through a remote office at Penn State University, this position will be focused on work in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Extensive travel across PA and NJ will take place. Duties and deliverables include interacting with TACF citizen scientists, collecting field data, documenting visits via social media, and subsequently uploading and analyzing that information.

Project Details

The Traveling Data Analysis Intern's primary duties are:

- Travel to an estimated 25 – 50 orchard locations across PA/NJ;
- Contact orchard managers and arrange most efficient travel itinerary for the summer;
- Create and/or update maps, directions, and contact information for those locations;
- Collect data metrics such as survival, height, DBH, resistance phenotypes, and other characteristics depending on the age and type of orchard;
- While on-site and post-visit, document visit with pictures and post to social media;
- Enter historic and current orchard and wild tree data into TACF's online database, *dentataBase*;
- To finalize each trip, write-up a final trip report for each location including a summary of what was observed, high-level data analysis, pictures, etc.

Level of skills required

The ideal candidate for this position is outgoing and enjoys working with people from a wide variety of backgrounds. This person must be willing to travel 2-3 days per week, with overnight stays, for most weeks of this position. Either personal mileage costs will be reimbursed at the IRS rate or rental cars will be provide. A personal vehicle is advisable and a valid driver's license is required. Experience with multiple social media outlets and Microsoft Excel are required. A strong interest and/or academic background in plant science, agriculture, forestry, mensuration, and/or statistics is preferable.

Skills intern will gain during and post-internship

Plant pathology, tree breeding and genetics, forest tree improvement, outreach and social media development, greenhouse management, database architecture, volunteer education, education program development, non-profit management,

Pay

\$12 - \$15 / hour, depending on experience and skills

Work Duration

10 – 12 weeks, flexible: On or about May 15 – August 15

Work Location

Remote. Working from home and/or while traveling

How to Apply

- Due no later 5pm April 30, 2021.
- Apply sooner rather than later! A candidate may be chosen shortly after an ideal applicant submits a packet.
- Send cover letter, resume, and list of 3 references to Jean Najjar at mail@patacf.org