



**Ecological Farming Association
Executive Director
Job Announcement**

The Ecological Farming Association (EcoFarm) is pleased to announce an exciting opportunity for you to join our vibrant team as its next Executive Director. We seek a dynamic and passionate individual to lead our organization in its next phase of growth and development by building upon our successes, deepening our programs, and broadening our networks of collaboration.

About EcoFarm

EcoFarm is a 39 year-old public interest organization based in Soquel, CA in Santa Cruz County. Its mission is *to nurture healthy, just, and ecologically sustainable farms, food systems, and communities by bringing people together for education, alliance building, advocacy, and celebration*. We are committed to enhancing diversity at our conference and in our programs and outreach.

EcoFarm boasts a rich history of organizing educational events, tackling critical issues of concern to farmers and the wider organic and ecological agriculture community. Our annual flagship event, the EcoFarm Conference, brings together an estimated 1,800 people from across the US and abroad to learn, network, collaborate, be inspired, and recharge. Known for its fabulous farm tours, abundance of stimulating workshops, art, and celebration, the Conference is the oldest and largest organic and sustainable agriculture gathering in the Western US.

Ideal Candidate

Our ideal candidate is a seasoned leader and an idea-generator with a demonstrated track record of success leveraging the requisite skills and experience in organizational and financial management, fundraising and strategic planning. The candidate must be enthusiastic about advancing organic and sustainable agriculture and food systems and be an effective communicator with a proven ability to facilitate conversations and consensus among a broad range of stakeholders. The Executive Director will work in partnership with the Board of Directors, the staff, and community leaders to maintain the organization's fiscal health and to ensure that its programs, communication, and policy advocacy continue to meet the needs of the wider EcoFarm community.

Qualifications

Candidates must possess many, if not all, of the following:

- Commitment to EcoFarm's mission and core values of facilitating diversity, equity and inclusion
- Three to five years of management experience with a nonprofit or advocacy organization of comparable size and scope
- Leadership experience in an organization with a focus on organic and ecological agriculture and familiarity with the history of the organic farming movement preferred
- Practical experience in overseeing the financial health of significant programs and/or similar institutions, including compliance with government policies and regulations
- Experience working in close partnership with an active Board of Directors, committed staff, and community of volunteers
- Demonstrated experience or evident capability to plan and carry out large events, conferences and/or fundraising initiatives
- Proven history in revenue generation through the solicitation of government, academic, corporate and/or foundation grants, sponsorships and individual donors
- Skillful in public speaking, writing, meeting facilitation, networking and consensus building
- Experience with managing the development and implementation of strategic communications including marketing/branding, social media and utilizing archival content for online educational opportunities
- Ability to attract, develop, lead and retain talented staff
- A deep understanding of policies and practices that pertain to organic, ecological agriculture and the organic food industry
- Experience as a social justice and policy advocate is a plus
- A minimum of a bachelor's degree in a related field (agriculture, environment, political science, sociology, social policy)
- Ability to work evenings and weekends as required during the conference season and to occasionally work in outdoor agricultural environments with exposure to heat, cold, dirt, dust, and moderate equipment noise

Salary

The selected candidate can expect to receive a negotiated executive salary based upon the established pay scales of organizations of comparable size and scope to EcoFarm.

Full time, exempt position; compensation includes vacation and medical benefits.

Location: EcoFarm Soquel, CA. Office in Santa Cruz County

Travel requirement: 10-15% of time

Equal Opportunity Employer

EcoFarm does not discriminate against any job applicant with respect to race, color, religion, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability or genetic information.

Please send Resume, cover letter and writing sample to: EDsearch@eco-farm.org

Thank you!