



## Graduate opportunity

### Background

Keith Summers LTD is located near Taunton, Somerset and specialises in seed potato production. We grow over 500 acres of seed, farming land at several locations in Somerset and Devon. Our family run business has become one of the largest growers of seed potatoes in England, supplying customers in the UK and overseas.

We are looking for someone who has a passion for working with fresh produce, who can bring skills and knowledge to help develop the business, who has practical experience of machinery operations and who will work alongside our team to get us to where we want to be. You will have enthusiasm, initiative and a drive to be part of a team who will deliver product to the highest standards.

This is a fantastic opportunity for someone to work alongside an exceptionally experienced and knowledgeable grower and his team.

### What's involved?

- Getting to grips with the different elements of seed potato production including field selection, crop planting, plant health, harvesting, storage and grading to meet the specifications of customer orders;
- Machinery operation (tractor driving - hauling, bed tilling, dam-diking and up-skilling to planter operations as knowledge and experience develops);
- Yard work – working alongside the yard team to fulfil customer orders, ensuring Red Tractor and Plant Health standards are met;
- Getting hands-on with the grading equipment and developing knowledge of different varieties and their grades;
- Operation of Fork Lift Truck to move boxes of seed between cold stores and grading sheds and loading lorries;
- Record keeping – assisting with the development of record keeping system, checking store temperatures, stock checks etc;
- Crop walking and disease monitoring during growing season, building knowledge about the application of agronomy advice;
- Administration – some office work to develop knowledge of nutrient management plans and planting plans, liaise with Keith and customers to prepare production plans to co-ordinate orders in the yard, and assist with preparation of Red Tractor Audits;
- Working with the team to maintain a tidy and organised yard, ensuring instructions for H&S are met;
- Assist with other general farm duties as required, (we also have around 160 beef bullocks and grow maize, wheat, oats and barley on the farm).

### Line management

You will be managed by Keith Summers.

## **Experience and qualifications**

- Post-16 education in relevant agriculture studies
- You must hold a current UK driving licence and have access to your own vehicle
- Tractor driving qualification and experience of field work
- Fork lift and Tele handler certificates desirable, not essential
- Experience of working on a farm, ideally food production
- Experience of working in a team

## **Hours of work**

Monday – Friday, 8am-5.30pm. Regular weekend and evening work will be required during the peak seasons (mid-March – early June and mid-August – late October) for planting and harvesting for which overtime will be paid.

## **Pay and pension**

Hourly rate to be discussed depending on experience.

To apply for this role, please send a CV and covering letter outlining your suitability for the role to [keith.summersltd@btinternet.net](mailto:keith.summersltd@btinternet.net).