

CROP SCOUT

A crop scout inspects farmers' fields and records weed, insect, disease and other observations. This is an important role to help farmers make timely, informed and economical field crop decisions.

WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES WILL I HAVE?

- Walk fields of customers often in order to look for potential robbers of yield
- Identify weeds that are growing in fields when they are preferably less than 3 inches tall, make recommendations on herbicide or mechanical control methods
- Locate and identify pests that may impact yield, make recommendations on control methods based on experience
- Conduct root digs in order to look for corn root worm and other root eating pests
- Perform yield estimates throughout the growing season to provide customer with an estimate of what yields will look like
- Use knowledge of growth stages in crops in order to predict potential problems during that stage of the growing season
- Identify and potentially diagnose crop diseases or pest infestation
- Communicate with the farmer or other individuals your findings
- Make recommendations based on your finding
- Remain up to date on the latest chemistry and technologies (such as drones or apps)



WHAT EDUCATION & TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

A degree in agronomy, crop science, weed science, etc. is helpful, but there is no education or training needed

THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES ARE RECOMMENDED...

Agricultural education, mathematics, English, plant science, biology, chemistry, environmental science

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Crop consultants, ag retailers & seed/chemical companies; may also be self-employed

FUTURE JOB MARKET/OUTLOOK



SUGGESTED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

- American Society of Agronomy
- Crop Science Society of America
- Weed Science Society of America

AVERAGE ANNUAL FULL-TIME SALARY

\$54,000