

Assistant Production Manager

H F Produce Ltd supplies washed, peeled and prepared vegetables to a range of outlets from large manufacturing bakeries through to small local food producers. At the core of our business is the Cornish pasty industry where we supply the key ingredients to well known names as well as smaller artisan producers. In addition to our central range, the business is an important key supplier of prepared vegetables into the South West food service industry.

Our vegetables are sourced from our sister farming company, Agricola Growers Ltd, with whom the business works closely as well as several other growers to whom we are closely aligned.

Situated on farm in beautiful South East Cornwall with Plymouth close by, our location provides opportunity for a good work life balance.

Due to growth within the business, we are seeking an enthusiastic and well organised individual to join our management team.

Initially supporting the Sales and Production Manager, it is anticipated that the successful applicant will take greater responsibility over time for meeting our customers' orders. Working in a fast-paced environment the role will be to ensure timely and cost-effective production through good planning and staff management.

As well as ensuring the day to day requirements of our year round customers are met, the role will also include planning and execution of vegetable (primarily potato) grading and storage when required with the associated monitoring. Additional potatoes are handled seasonally for onward movement to a leading processor and to two crisping outlets, managing this part of the operation will be an important part of the role.

Key attributes for the successful applicant will include the following.

The ability to work in a fast-paced environment to ensure our customers' needs are always met.

A good understanding of vegetable production, its seasonality and storage requirements.

The ability to grow into the day-to-day management of a team of approximately 30 staff with differing skill levels.

The aptitude to understand food processing machinery, its maintenance and cleaning requirements.

A confident 'can do' attitude to life combined with the ability to lead and inspire a small, committed team.

An appreciation of the technical and compliance needs of a vegetable processing business.

Communication skills to be effective when talking to everyone from customers, suppliers, members of the management team and production staff.

A qualification in Agri-Food/Business/Agri-Business/Agriculture is desirable but not essential.

Some experience of people management.

This is a permanent, full time role working Monday to Friday and every third Sunday. Some flexibility is required to meet customer requirements and seasonality.

The remuneration package will be tailored to the successful candidate but will be starting in the region of £24 to 28K for the right candidate.

In addition, accommodation is available via a low rent house share in a modern property close to site with another of our managers.

We expect to provide further training and mentoring to enable the successful individual to take a larger role within the business and play a significant role in its development.

For more information about the role or to apply please contact Elizabeth Oatey on 07739 323744 or elizabeth@hayfarmproduce.co.uk