I have attached the internship description that I had mentioned to this email. The internship will run the most of the length of the growing season, from just after emergence to harvest (about March to July). I'm trying to get the word out early for the 2020 season because we always have trouble finding an intern who can start early enough. We are pretty flexible with the dates and will accommodate a student who is a good fit, if needed. It will be 40+ hours, sometimes seven days a week, and will be mostly outside digging potatoes, sampling petioles, soil, and scouting. The base requirements are someone who has a passion for agriculture and has tenacity. Experience is great, but not absolutely necessary as they will be working very closely with me and I like to go into detail and explain everything. If any of your students are looking for hands-on, real world experience they will get it here. Also, if anyone needs housing near the farm I will speak with the farm manager to see what we can arrange for them.

For those interested, have them apply by sending me their resume/CV and available dates to (Benjamin.perea@blackgoldfarms.com).

If you or any students have any questions feel free to send me an email.

Thank you for your help!
Benjamin Perea
JOB DESCRIPTION

Employee:

JOB TITLE:    Agronomy Intern

BASE LOCATION:  Pearsall, TX

REPORT TO:    Area Agronomist

JOB REQUIREMENTS:  Private pesticide applicator’s license

JOB LENGTH:    March – June/July (Approximate)

JOB OBJECTIVES:  Assist local Farm Manager and Area Agronomist in raising high quality, profitable potatoes through weekly scouting, soil and petiole tissue collection and timely reporting.

JOB RESULTS:

1. Become familiar with all stages of potato plant growth including nutritional requirements, along with the identification of potato insects, diseases, weeds and the appropriate control options for each.

2. Assist local Farm Manager with irrigation scheduling by employing the USDA method of “Estimating soil moisture by feel and appearance”, along with becoming familiar with the local soil types and their water holding capacities and understanding crop water requirements for each growth stage of the potato.

3. Assist Area Agronomist with field marking and mapping.

4. Assist Area Agronomist with seed cutting through quality/size monitoring using SOP Forms 6.07.01 Seed Sizing and 6.18.01 Seed Receiving Evaluation.

5. Assist Area Agronomist with the monitoring of seed placement and seed spacing during the planting operation using SOP Form 4.11.01 Planter Efficiency Report.

6. Assist with crop production record data management.

7. Assist Local Farm Manager with pre-harvest yield and QC monitoring.

8. Assist Area Agronomist with day-to-day field research activities including planting, in-season data collecting and harvesting.

9. Complete special project as assigned by the Group Agronomy Manager and present findings prior to completion of internship assignment.

10. Collaborate with engineering staff to develop testing plans for soil monitoring systems.

11. Collect data from soil monitoring systems to assist with irrigation management by monitoring field moisture, irrigation & rainfall amounts on a daily basis.
12. Applicants must have a valid driver’s license, clean MVR check and transportation to the job.