

Agronomy Data Analysis and Drone Pilot Specialist

Company: Digital Silva LLC

Location: West Lafayette, Indiana (with travel throughout the state and possibly IL, OH, WI, MI, and KY)

Employment Type: Part-time as needed until spring 2025. Full-time employment will start around April/May of 2025.

About Digital Silva

Digital Silva is a veteran-owned, NDAA-compliant drone technology start-up company revolutionizing data-driven decision-making in forestry, agriculture, and infrastructure sectors. We empower land managers, natural resource professionals, and those who maintain critical infrastructure to make informed decisions and cultivate more sustainable ecosystems through advanced drone technology and data analytics.

Job Description

We are seeking a highly skilled and versatile professional to join our team as an Agronomist who will also function as a data analyst and drone pilot. This multifaceted role combines agronomy expertise with drone operations and data analysis proficiency. The ideal candidate will play a crucial role in our agricultural services, including crop health assessments, precision agriculture applications, and data-driven insights for our clients.

Key Responsibilities

Agronomy

Conduct crop health assessments and soil analysis

Develop and implement precision agriculture strategies

Advise clients on best practices for crop management and yield optimization

Stay current with the latest agricultural research and technologies

Drone Operations

Operate advanced drone systems for aerial surveys, crop mapping, and precision applications

Plan and execute drone flights in compliance with FAA regulations and company protocols

Perform aerial spraying and seeding operations using specialized agricultural drones

Maintain drone equipment and ensure all systems are in optimal working condition

Data Analysis

Process and analyze data collected from drone surveys, including lidar, RGB, multispectral and thermal imagery

Generate comprehensive reports and actionable insights for clients

Develop and refine algorithms for crop health assessment and yield prediction

Collaborate with the R&D teams to improve data analysis techniques and methodologies

Client Relations

Communicate effectively with clients to understand their needs and explain technical findings

Provide expert advice on agricultural practices based on data-driven insights

Contribute to proposals and presentations for potential clients

Compliance and Safety

Ensure all operations comply with NDAA requirements and FAA regulations

Adhere to safety protocols for drone operations and agricultural applications

Assist in maintaining and updating standard operating procedures

Qualifications

Associates degree in Agronomy, Agricultural Science, Crop Science, or a related field.

FAA Remote Pilot Certificate (Part 107)

Indiana Commercial Pesticide and Fertilizer Applicator License (Categories 1, 2, 3b, 5, 6, 8, 11, and 14)

Proficiency in operating various types of drones, particularly agricultural spray drones

Strong data analysis skills with experience in GIS, remote sensing, and agricultural modeling software (ArcGIS, Pix4D, etc.)

Experience with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.)

Knowledge of precision agriculture technologies and practices

Excellent problem-solving and critical thinking skills

Strong communication skills, both written and verbal

Ability to work independently and as part of a team

Willingness to travel throughout Indiana and potentially neighboring states

Preferred Qualifications

Bachelors degree in Agronomy, Agricultural Science, Crop Science, or a related field.

Experience with NDAA-compliant drone systems

Familiarity with AI and machine learning applications in agriculture

Experience in forestry or environmental science

Benefits

Full-time starting pay is \$52,000 annual salary with an annual pay raise of 3% minimum or equal to the rate of inflation. Initial part-time pay is \$25/hour.

2% commission on all sales made

Annual profit-sharing/holiday bonus

401K retirement plan with company match

All federal holidays and election days are off, 3 weeks are off in winter, 1 week is off over the 4th of July, and 10 personal/sick days a year

Professional development opportunities: paid travel to trade conventions, tuition reimbursement, paid continuing education, and paid membership to industry organizations

Parental leave of 12 weeks paid

Company provided cell phone and laptop

Digital Silva LLC is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees. Digital Silva is willing to help the right person obtain their part 107 and pesticide applicator license. Veterans are encouraged to apply. To apply, please send your resume, a cover letter outlining your relevant experience and vision for this role, and any supporting materials to jhouse@digitalsilva.io. For questions or further inquiries call Joe House at (513)869-0626.