



Senior Economist/Director of Research & Development

Mercaris is a new venture that provides a subscription-based data service and cash market trading platform for agricultural commodities that are organic, non-GMO, or meet other sustainable certifications. Mercaris provides spot and forward market prices, production acreage, yield data and other information, and is seeking a Director of Research & Development to join an exciting, new company with industry-changing potential.

Duties:

Mercaris is seeking a candidate with stellar research skills together with strong project management experience to a) build the products available to data subscribers and b) build the capacity of the research & development department.

New Products--The candidate will be responsible for developing price and production surveys, conducting statistical analyses of selected IP food & fiber commodities, and turning raw data into useful products for our clients. The candidate must be familiar with standard data analysis methods and be able to apply these appropriately to a variety of food & feed commodities. The Director will also monitor trends in IP markets to understand both supply and demand drivers.

Building Capacity--The candidate will undertake to build the capacity of the research department by developing and maintaining relationships with state and federal departments of agriculture, universities and other centers of agricultural markets research; hiring Associate Researcher(s) to the department; and developing new data products in conjunction with the Mercaris marketing and technology teams.

Qualifications

Candidate should have 3+ years experience in planning and executing economic research projects and analysis relevant to agricultural markets, as well as familiarity with the demands of a start-up company. Candidate must have a Masters in Agricultural Economics or Natural Resource Economics.

Other Desired Qualifications:

- Innovative, with an understanding of customers and their business needs;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
- Solid time-management and follow-through skills, with the ability to simultaneously work on and manage multiple tasks and projects with tight deadlines;
- Ability to work well independently as well as with a diverse, multi-disciplinary team in a fast-paced work environment;
- Familiarity with Geographic Information Systems.

Salary & Benefits: Mercaris offers a comprehensive compensation package, including salary, benefits and the potential for an equity stake in the company.

Location: Midwest

Contact: Send resume and cover letter to info@mercaris.com