



## **Director of Quality Assurance**

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Founded in 2005, Backyard Farms operates 42-acres of greenhouse growing space in Madison, Maine and is the only New England producer that provides the Northeast with fresh, locally-grown tomatoes year-round. Its more than 400,000 tomato plants produce nearly 27 million pounds of tomatoes annually. It is a local, fresher alternative in the winter months to tomatoes that are grown in Canada, Mexico or Holland. Unlike other tomatoes that are not ripe when picked and turn red while in route to stores, Backyard Farms tomatoes are left on the vine to ripen and shipped within just a day of harvest. This results in the freshest tomato possible when it arrives in markets. Backyard Farms tomatoes can be found in retail outlets including Hannaford, Walmart and Whole Foods.

### **DIRECTOR OF QUALITY ASSURANCE**

Reporting to the President, the Director of Quality Assurance will be responsible for quality assurance and food safety as well as a collaborator with departments responsible for worker safety and environmental compliance programs at Backyard Farms (BYF). Primary responsibilities include direct supervision of food safety, and food quality, program collaboration of certain aspects of the environmental compliance, worker safety, and integrated pest management program (IPM) with an understanding of biological and cultural controls utilized in hydroponic tomato greenhouses. While working in an office and greenhouse industrial facility, the Dir. QA will handle a broad range of activities and will be responsible for supervising the implementation of BYF's policies and procedures as a member of BYF's leadership team

### **PRIMARY DELIVERABLES**

- Maintain and further develop BYF's safety, QA, and food safety compliance programs, including analysis and submission of state and federal regulatory reports
- Provide single point of contact for federal and state regulators with regard to quality assurance including the Maine DEP and DAG, EPA, FDA and DHS
- Provide QA and Food Safety compliance management reports to executive team and Board of Directors
- Direct colleague interaction where required across all functions, including growing, packing, sales, technology and administration
- Coordinate BYF compliance activities with corporate risk management team and Director of Accounting. Maintain GLOBALG.A.P. Harmonized Produce Safety Standard Certification, meeting all Backyard Farms requirements including Commitments, Document Control and Records, Specifications, Attaining Food Safety, Verification, Product Identification, Trace and Recall, Incident Management, Building and Equipment Design and Construction, and Food Safety Fundamentals - Pre-requisite Programs such as sanitation, pest control, etc.
- Reassess GLOBALG.A.P. HPSS and environmental health and safety compliance whenever there is a change to BYF strategy, program, process, procedure, packaging, equipment, technology, industry philosophy, etc.
- Annual review of GLOBALG.A.P HPSS program and Food Safety Risk Assessment Plans.
- Maintain the Compliance Systems of Record, including the matrix of activities and responsibilities, master schedule of compliance activities, and repository of compliance documentation
- Lead and participate in all incident investigations and compliance reviews
- Conduct internal facility audits and facility self-assessments, schedule Quality Team to adequately support business needs and monitor, collect and report standards data designed to support proper pack house functions
- Develop/ implement and maintain company product specifications while adhering to U.S. standards for grades of greenhouse tomatoes

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- Bachelor's degree in Food Safety, Microbiology, Chemistry, Food Science, or other related field
- Minimum of 10-15 yrs. experience in food safety and quality assurance (QA, food safety/HACCP, regulatory review, spec development, etc.) with at least 2 years in a management capacity within a hydroponic greenhouse or agricultural food processing environment
- Strong knowledge of security, safety, and environmental compliance

- Experience in program, project and risk management
- Working knowledge of site and systems access management
- Minimum 5 years' experience in technical aspects of food safety HACCP Certification from a nationally / internationally recognized and accredited body
- Previous experience with GLOBALG.A.P. PSS or HPSS, SQF Level 3, or other third party audit schemes

**SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE**

- Have an excellent command of the following skills: leadership, team building, problem solving, organization, and written and verbal communication
- Experience in an agricultural food production / processing plant is preferred
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Power Point, and Outlook
- Ability to walk or stand for extended periods and work in environments at varying temperatures
- Ability to work during off-hours to address emergency conditions or other situations that may arise

If you are interested in contributing to Backyard Farms through execution of the qualifications listed above as the **Director of Quality Assurance** please submit a cover letter and updated resume to **staffing@backyardfarms.com** by close of business ?????, 2015.

Backyard Farms is an Equal Opportunity Employer