

Horticultural grower

Riverside Market Garden, Vale of Glamorgan

salary range £18,000-23,000 depending on experience

Riverside Community Market Association (RCMA) was established in 1998 to run a local producers' market and a range of food and nutrition-related projects and activities in Cardiff. Riverside Market has grown to become the largest farmers' market in Wales. At the same time RCMA has continued to expand and develop its educational and outreach programmes, such as its work in local schools and the RCMA Community Garden project.

RCMA has now secured 5 acres of high quality agricultural land 10 miles west of Cardiff, to develop an intensive organic horticulture project, focusing on both production and related training. Further land may be available over the next few years.

The Market Garden will shortly become an independent community-owned social enterprise. It will be a pilot project for local food production and for developing intensive small-scale horticultural production in Wales. This will offer a practical sustainable solution for local food production and distribution to local consumers, as well as create employment and deliver training and offer educational visits.

RCMA are now recruiting a grower / horticultural manager, with a view to commencing employment by April 2010. The criteria which will apply include the following:

- at least 3 years' proven experience of organic vegetable production relevant to the scale of the project
- tractor driving experience
- an understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the related training and educational aspects of the project
- a flexible, innovative and good natured approach to a project which may need to adapt and re-focus its efforts as it develops

The post will become a full time salaried position with a pension option. However, at this stage only part of the project funding has been secured. Therefore, whilst RCMA are confident and have a great track record in securing funding, we cannot offer a full time basis at the outset. We can therefore currently offer a 3 month contract, with a view to firming up the employment basis as soon as possible.

The land is situated near St Hilary, between Cardiff and Cowbridge. Temporary accommodation may be available at Coed Hills Rural Artspace.

If you are interested in this post, please send a brief email to this effect to: mail@riversidemarket.org.uk. Please include your contact details, and a brief resume (no more than 1 page) of your experience.