

Agricultural Research Technician Interview Questions

1. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.
2. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.
3. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?
4. Share an effective method you have used to prepare laboratory samples and ensure that they are dealt with efficiently and effectively.
5. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?
6. In your experience, what is the key to ensuring your company was compliant with all laws, regulations and standards that were applicable to your area of responsibility?
7. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.
8. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.
9. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)
10. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)
11. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.
12. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)
13. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was

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the impact?
14. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)
15. What is the state of your data records? What is one thing you would like to improve?
16. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?
17. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?
18. Provide a time when you worked in a rapidly evolving workplace. How did you deal with the change? (Make sure the candidate is flexible.)
19. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.
20. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)
21. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.
22. Name the laboratory equipment you have operated.
23. Provide an effective method you have used to track percentage of germinated seeds.
24. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?
25. Provide an effective method you have used to determine the presence of disease or other problems in animals and specimens.
26. Share an effective method you have used to adjust testing equipment and to prepare culture media.

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27. What factors do you consider when collecting samples for testing?
28. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?
29. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.
30. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.
31. Share an experience in which you set up equipment and/or prepared sites for testing.
32. Tell me about effective data summaries, reports, or analyses you have prepared. What methods made you successful?
33. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?
34. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?
35. Describe an experience in which you effectively performed nursery duties.
36. Share an experience in which you've successfully learned how to handle a new piece of equipment?
37. How do you stay fit in order to perform physical activities that are required in the workplace?
38. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?
39. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.
40. Share an experience in which you supervised pest or weed control operations. What methods made you successful?

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41. Describe an experience in which you operated farm machinery.

42. Share an experience in which you successfully supervised and/or trained a staff. What methods made you successful?

43. Share an effective method you have used to ensure operational readiness, safety, and cleanliness of facilities, equipment, and tools.

44. Provide an experience in which you effectively performed crop production duties.

45. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful?

46. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.

47. Describe an experience in which you successfully transplanted a tree, vegetable, or horticultural plant. How about an experience that was less successful?

48. Provide an experience in which you marked plot areas and/or prepared land for cultivated crops, orchards, or vineyards.

49. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?

50. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?

51. Tell me about an effective insect or plant disease survey you conducted.

52. Share an experience in which personal connections to coworkers or others helped you to be successful in your work. (Make sure candidate works well with others.)

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53. Describe an effective cultural method or environmental control for a plant which you devised.
54. Describe an experience in which you identified the educational needs of your students and successfully developed a way to teach/train them.
55. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you choose the most appropriate action.
56. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.
57. Tell me about an effective agricultural demonstration which you prepared and/or presented. What methods made you successful?
58. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?
59. Share an experience in which your diligence of inspecting equipment, structures, or materials helped you identify a problem or the cause of a problem.
60. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.
61. Share an experience in which you responded to a difficult inquiry from the public.
62. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.
63. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?
64. Provide an example when you were able to prevent a problem because you foresaw the reaction of another person.
65. Provide an effective method you have used to monitor the effectiveness of integrated pest management practices.

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66. Share an experience in which you conducted studies to ensure satisfaction of crop needs and/or minimization of leaching, runoff, or denitrification.
67. Provide an experience in which you effectively assessed comparative soil erosion from various planting or tillage systems. What methods made your assessment successful?
68. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?
69. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.
70. Tell me about the last time you oversaw the work of someone else. How did you effectively motivate, develop, and direct the worker(s)?
71. In your experience, what is the key to developing a good team? (Look for how they build mutual trust, respect, and cooperation.)
72. Describe an experience in which your ability to work well with others and reconcile differences helped your company or employer. (Make sure the candidate knows how to negotiate.)
73. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)
74. Describe an experience in which you successfully controlled the operation of a difficult system. What made you successful?
75. Describe a time when you successfully persuaded another person to change his/her way of thinking or behavior.