

Research Soil Scientist Interview Questions

1. Name a time when your advice to management led to an improvement in your company or otherwise helped your employer.

2. Name a time when you collected information about soil or field attributes, yield data, or field boundaries, using field data recorders and basic geographic information systems (GIS).

3. What factors do you consider when compiling and analyzing geospatial data to determine agricultural implications of factors such as soil quality, terrain, field productivity, fertilizers, and weather conditions?

4. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

5. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

6. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

7. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?

8. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

9. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

10. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

11. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

12. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

13. What is the most challenging part of creating, layering, and analyzing maps showing precision agricultural

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data, such as crop yields, soil characteristics, input applications, terrain, drainage patterns, or field management history?

14. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

15. Describe methods you have found helpful to develop soil sampling grids or identify sampling sites, using geospatial technology, for soil testing on characteristics such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium content, pH, and micronutrients.

16. Walk me through how you would divide agricultural fields into georeferenced zones, based on soil characteristics and production potentials.

17. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

18. 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.)

19. 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.

20. 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.)