SHELBY JOHNSON

27 Kiowa Creek Rd. • Leicester, NC 28748 • 404-414-1961 • Johnson.shelby43@gmail.com 

QUALIFICATIONS

* Varied plant knowledge with extensive experience in field/row cropping, greenhouses, nurseries, and controlled environment agriculture, including both traditional farming and cannabis cultivation.
* Experience working within variety of agricultural systems, including organic, soil based, hydroponic, and aeroponic applications.
* Proficient in plant/crop management, including propagation, daily maintenance and irrigation systems, nutrient application, and integrated pest management.
* Highly experienced in all aspects of harvest, processing, and packaging of crops, including post-harvest distribution.
* Creative and energetic farmer with a clean background, reliable transportation, as well as Spanish language proficiency. FSMA certified, with a valid Colorado Cottage Food license as well as Colorado Dept. of Ag. Pesticide Applicator license.



EXPERIENCE

* Southeastern African American Farmer’s Organic Network November 2021 – Present

Membership Coordinator, responsible for work related to organizing a member-led farmer organization. Responsible for aiding in redesigning membership process and helping organization work through strategic processing for all programs and organizational structure. Directly responsible for member communication and engagement, including newsletters, managing member profiles and outreach, organizing resources for supporting member “clusters,” and administrative work including utilizing CRM software. Also directly responsible for in-person farm visits, helping to monitor and regulate adherence to on-farm practices as established in membership agreement, and facilitating programs as needed.

* The Culinary Gardener January 2021 – November 2021

Assistant Farm Manager, responsible for all aspects of production in a highly productive, year-round culinary farm. Directly responsible for all labor planning and record keeping, as well as aiding in managing whole farm project management. Assist in crop planning and management of CSA, as well as CSA correspondence with members. Responsible for day-to-day operations, from seed to sale, including IPM, propagation, cultivation, harvest and process, and distribution. Secondary tractor operator, as well as upkeep and equipment maintenance.

* Ekar Farm, Denver CO March 2020 – December 2020

Farm Manager, responsible for all day-to-day operations of a small, non-profit farm. Diversified vegetable operation for distribution exclusively to local food banks. Responsible for crop planning and execution, seeding and propagation, all regular field work including IPM, harvest, processing, and distribution, as well as managing staff. Responsible for scheduling, payroll, departmental budgeting and reporting to Ekar Farm board quarterly. Also responsible for on-site management of volunteers, educational tours, school groups, etc. Directly involved in community engagement through cooperative garden initiatives, local farmer’s union activities, and farm programming. Overseeing the transition to organic practices, and responsible for recordkeeping for future organic inspections.

* Altius Farms, Denver CO September 2019 – March 2020

Assistant Farm Manager, responsible for supporting Farm Manager in all aspects of production from propagation to harvest within aeroponic, vertical farm system. Responsibilities include propagation and nutrient application, transplant, plant care, IPM, harvest, and post-harvest processing. Also responsible for volunteer and intern management as needed.

* Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield Farm, Littleton CO April 2019 – September 2019

CSA grower, responsible for all tasks related to the cultivation, maintenance, and distribution of over 340 vegetable and flower CSA shares weekly. Including propagation, field prep and cultivation, transplanting, field/crop management including IPM, harvest and processing, and distribution. Also responsible for leading small groups of volunteers or on-farm tours weekly.

* Verde Natural, Denver CO March 2018 – March 2019

Cultivation Staff, responsible for daily maintenance of large, holistically managed soil beds from all stages of cannabis development from seed to harvest. Responsibilities include transplant management, brewing of compost teas and other feeds, pest management, plant maintenance, and post-harvest processing.

* Harmony Extracts, Denver CO March 2017 – March 2018

Propagation Manager, responsible for daily maintenance of all aspects of propagation, including selecting and seeding new clones and ensuring healthy growth during vegetation. Extensive experience in every aspect of cannabis cultivation, from any necessary plant maintenance to facilities upkeep.

* Front Field Farm, Athens GA August 2015 – January 2017
Farm Hand, responsible for daily farm maintenance, including all aspects of a large scale commercial organic farm – assisting with crop planning, planting, field rotation and cover cropping, pest management, harvest and processing, market sales, small equipment maintenance.
* Wolfscratch Permaculture Learning Farms January 2015 – July 2015

Farm hand, responsible for assisting with daily maintenance and upkeep of an educational, non-profit permaculture farm, including daily animal husbandry. Also responsible for helping to host farm interns, volunteers, and school groups.



EDUCATION

* International Business Diploma, North Cobb High School, Acworth GA, 2012
* B.A., Applied Linguistics, Georgia State University, Atlanta GA, 2016
* TEFL Certificate, Georgia State University, Atlanta GA, 2016
* Sociology Minor, Georgia State University, Atlanta GA, 2016
* GoFarm Beginning Farmer Incubator, via CSU and Denver Botanic, Denver CO, 2018



REFERENCES

* Susan Salinger, Executive Director, Ekar Farm

720-434-0470

* Ethan Page, Farm Manager, Altius Farms

845-242-8030

* Phil Cordelli, Farm Manager, Chatfield Farm at Denver Botanic Gardens

303-961-7339

* Cassandra Maffey, Master Cultivator, Verde Natural

720-277-7158

* Evelyn Hill, Cultivation Manager, Harmony Extracts

720-939-7789