

Role description

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General information

Title:	Assistant Farm Manager			Classification:	OPS3
Division:	SARDI	Branch:	Research Support		Business unit: Farm Network
Type of appointment:	Ongoing	Hours of duty:	37.5	Location :	Loxton Research Centre

About us

South Australia is internationally recognised for the quality of its agriculture, food, and wine. Our regions are the backbone of our state and the economic powerhouse that drives prosperity for all South Australians.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) is a key economic development agency working in partnership with our primary industries, regional stakeholders and across all levels of government to advance the prosperity and sustainability of South Australia's primary industries and regional communities.

We are a passionate team of around 800 people working across metropolitan and regional South Australia to develop and protect our state's regions and food, wine, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, grains, livestock, dairy and horticulture industries.

Purpose

The primary purpose of the role is to provide skilled technical assistance and support to the cropping, research, demonstration, and extension activities associated with the Loxton farming operation. The Centre specialises in farming systems research and has several groups involved in on-farm research throughout the Riverland area and other parts of the state. The role contributes to delivering support for seasonal cropping (including sowing, spraying and harvest); on farm research support work (establishing, monitoring, sampling, and data collection); and general farm maintenance (machinery, infrastructure). The incumbent is required to apply a working knowledge of farming practices in horticultural operations and research and have a positive approach to assessing and implementing new technology.

The Loxton Research Centre farming operation aims to demonstrate best practice commercial horticultural practice, demonstrate and challenge new technologies as part of the AgTech initiative and provide independent high-quality sites to host research trials.

Key accountabilities

- Under the direction of the Farm Manager, Loxton Research Centre farm plans, actions and outcomes are achieved to a professional standard within designated timeframes and allocated resources.
- Developing and maintaining a range of effective working partnerships, networks relationships with researchers, community, and industry, as well as internal and external state government stakeholders.
- Supervision of the workshop and farm, ensuring labor, tools, materials, and equipment are available, used efficiently and where appropriate are properly maintained.
- Coordinating integrated control management programs to effectively control weeds and other pests.
- Overseeing production of produce in compliance with industry QA and HACCP standards
- Assisting the Farm Manager and Researchers to achieve program goals.
- Data generated through farm operations managed in accordance with the SARDI Data Management Framework.
- Ensuring work quality is of a high standard with attention to detail and recordkeeping when supervising casual farm and technical staff engaged in general farm duties.
- Effectively scheduling and running the irrigation system
- Promotion of optimum sustainable economic production through the demonstration of best practice and leading-edge farming technology (AgTech)

Key deliverables / results

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work quality is of a high standard with attention to detail and recordkeeping when supervising casual farm and technical staff engaged in general farm duties.• Ensure crops are managed in accordance with research and project requirements.• Ensure supervision of the workshop and farm, ensuring labor, tools, materials, and equipment are available, used efficiently and where appropriate are properly maintained.• Weeds and other pests effectively controlled by undertaking integrated control management programs.• Procurement and disposal policies and procedures understood and strictly applied. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data generated through farm operations managed in accordance with the SARDI Data Management Framework.• Supervision of staff members to maintain safe work practices through provision of guidance and advice on procedures and methods of operation.• Support provided to organising events such as field days.• A cooperative team environment maintained by providing an overall on-the-job leadership role.• Oversight of external contractor induction• |
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Relationships

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Role reports to the Loxton Farm Manager• Works with and collaborated with PIRSA staff of all levels on site. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Works with contractors and external stakeholders. |
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Requirements

- Possession of a current driver's license and willingness to drive.
- Out of hours work and inter / intrastate travel will be required.
- Australian residency or current works permit is required (responsibility of applicant to provide evidence of a current work permit).
- You acknowledge your work, health and safety obligations and our expectations when [applying for a role](#).
- The incumbent will be required to undertake emergency management training and must be willing to participate in emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities required by government agencies.

Qualifications

- Essential: N/A
- Desirable: Knowledge of Hardcat Asset Management system and Agriweb farming software
- Desirable: Certificate II or III in Horticulture or equivalent

Capabilities

Capability	Behaviours
Professional and Technical Knowledge Demonstrates sound knowledge of agricultural research, preferably with horticulture trials and demonstrations	• Maintains up to date knowledge and skills in horticulture, including crop management issues including disease, pests, and weeds. • Knowledge of biosecurity standards • Proactively embraces opportunities provided by new agricultural technologies. • Knowledge of horticulture in a research farm environment • Demonstrates ability to operate and maintain farm and research machinery. • Demonstrates ability to use PC applications including Microsoft word, Excel, Outlook, and the internet. • A current Chemcert Certificate and knowledge of agricultural chemicals • Knowledge in the use of AgriWeb, Hardcat and farm software systems

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Attention to detail. Ensuring that work and or information is complete and accurate; paying attention to detail to ensure work is timely, accurate and reliable	• Delivers attention to detail to ensure work is timely, accurate and reliable. • Sets up procedures for checking accuracy of work/ information. • Appreciates and clearly communicates the ramifications of inaccuracies.
Planning & Organising Sets own work priorities, uses tools (e.g., calendar, files charts) and time efficiently to meet work objectives	• Demonstrated time management and organisational skills, including an ability to juggle multiple priorities and complete tasks within required timeframes, work independently and flexibly, exercise initiative and attention to detail. • Sets own work priorities effectively, allocating and managing time and resources accordingly. • Uses tools and time effectively to meet work obligations
Initiative	• Produces quality, innovative work without constant supervision. • Recognises what needs to be done and does it independently without prompting; Acts proactively rather than reactively

HRMS no.:		ANZCO Code:		Objective ID:	
Delegate approval:	Dr Hannah Brown			Date:	
Approved and classified by People and Culture:	[Date] [Reference number]				