Role description

General information

Title:	Senior Agricultural Officer (South East)			**Classification:**	OPS3
Division:	SARDI	**Branch:**	Crop Sciences	**Business unit:**	Agronomy
Type of appointment:	Term Contract	**Hours of duty:**	37.5 hours per week	**Location:**	Naracoorte/Struan

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 Senior Agricultural Officer is part of the Agronomy Program in the Crop Sciences research division within the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI). The role contributes to delivering SARDI's priority of leading and conducting innovative research to increase productivity of our primary industries for the benefit of South Australia.

The primary purpose of the role is to coordinate and oversee the day-to-day management of agronomy field trials, including providing technical assistance and operating farm machinery for research projects undertaken by the SARDI Agronomy program. Based at the Struan Research Centre/Naracoorte, this Senior Agricultural Officer delivers the operational management of technical processes involved with agronomy, technology and pastures projects for the Limestone Coast and other parts of the state, including coordinating, supervising and training staff, implementing and monitoring data collection and storage processes and systems and working closely with regional Agronomy staff.

Key accountabilities

- Coordinating and overseeing the day-to-day management of agronomy field trials across the Limestone Coast, under the direction of the Research Scientist, Agronomy (Struan Research Centre/Naracoorte) including sowing, spraying, harvesting, soil and plant sampling and data collection.
- Working closely with, and providing technical assistance to, regional Agronomy staff, researchers and stakeholders to ensure the operational outcomes of research projects are met in a timely and professional manner.
- Coordinating, monitoring and documenting the purchase, maintenance and application of fertilisers and agricultural chemicals applied to trials.
- Using technology for data collection and
- Coordinating, supervising and training staff, including seasonal casual fieldwork staff, and ensuring the appropriate application of systems and processes.
- Implementing and monitoring data collection and storage processes and systems to ensure field trial records and data are maintained in a safe and logical format and forwarded to respective project supervisors in a timely manner.
- Delivering staff and contractor induction and monitoring the safe and appropriate use of farm machinery and field and laboratory equipment.
- Organising research machinery repairs and modifications as required.
- Maintaining personal expenditure records and ensuring financial delegations are understood.

Key deliverables / results

- Coordinating and undertaking trial site selection, soil sampling, sowing, maintenance,
- Ensuring fertilisers and agricultural chemicals are purchased, maintained accurately and

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Role description

plant sampling and harvesting of field trials and demonstrations is undertaken. • Operating and maintaining and repairing farm machinery and other field and laboratory equipment. • Sampling and processing soil, plant and grain from field trials.	applied to trials when appropriate. • Delivering staff and contractor training and monitoring the safe and appropriate use of farm machinery and field and laboratory equipment. • Following established experimental trial protocols, collecting and appropriately storing data and maintaining accurate trial records.

Relationships

• Role reports to Research Scientist, Agronomy (Struan Research Centre/Naracoorte). • Maintain links with the Program Leader of Agronomy • Roles reporting to this role include casual staff members.	• Collaboration with co-operating land holders, consultants and local farming systems groups. • Role works collaboratively with SARDI and PIRSA personnel, including SARDI Agronomy staff based in Port Lincoln, Waite, Clare, Nuriootpa and Minnipa.

Requirements

- This role is located at Struan Research Centre/Naracoorte with research conducted on research farms and off-site across the Limestone Coast.
- Possession of a current driver's license and willingness to drive is essential.
- Out of hours work and inter / intrastate travel may be required.
- You acknowledge your work, health and safety obligations and our expectations.
- Use of common agriculture chemicals is required and a Chemcert chemical handler's certificate or a willingness to obtain one is essential.
- A Senior First Aid Certificate or willingness to obtain will be required.
- A current forklift license (LF) would be an advantage.
- Involves field work and exposure to dust and pollen.

Qualifications

- Essential: N/A
- Desirable: On-farm experience.
- Desirable: Heavy Combination (HC) licence.

Capabilities

Capability	Behaviours
Professional and Technical Knowledge Demonstrates knowledge of farming systems and/or field trial experimentation.	• Experience coordinating and undertaking the planning and delivery of agricultural research field trials including preparing, sowing, soil sampling, chemical spraying harvesting and data collection and management. • Experience in supervising, training and inducting staff, monitoring and documenting the purchase, maintenance and application of fertilisers and agricultural chemicals and coordinating or undertaking maintenance across a range of agricultural equipment. • Demonstrates a good understanding of the principles of southern region field crop production and management. • Has sound and up-to-date knowledge of field crop management, including new field crop varieties and weed, pest and disease management strategies.

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	• Demonstrated ability to work both independently and as part of a team, under general direction, to deliver identified performance outcomes, determine priorities, and plan and allocate work to achieve effective results, and to utilise reference material and instructions to resolve problems and issues. • Demonstrated ability to use a range of PC applications including Microsoft Word, TEAMS, Excel, Outlook, OneDrive, Google Earth and Maps and willingness to apply the use of technology to field trials.
Attention to detail Pays attention to detail to ensure one's own work is timely, accurate and reliable.	• Monitors own and others' work, ensuring it complies with the performance standards required by the organisation (timeliness, accuracy, reliability, cost-effectiveness etc).
Communication Communicates easily in interactions with others and conveys information clearly in written communications and documents.	• Conveys information clearly in verbal and written communications. • Communicates with growers, farmer system groups and collaborators in a professional and ethical manner. • Relates confidently to people at all levels of industry.
Team Work Working with others to achieve shared goals, sharing information and actively promoting harmony and team spirit.	• Works effectively in a team environment. • Treats others fairly and equitably. • Understands the work of the group and demonstrates commitment to team goals.

HRMS no.:	A789131	**ANZCO Code:**		**Objective ID:**	
Delegate approval:	[Name] [Role title]			**Date:**	
Approved and classified by People and Culture:	[Date] [Reference number]				

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