# Position Details

## Research Projects- CSOF3

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| The following information is for applicants |
| Advertised Job Title | Agricultural Research Technician |
| Job Reference | 90905 |
| Tenure | IndefiniteFull-time |
| Salary Range | AU$68k to AU$86 pa (pro-rata for part-time) + up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Myall Vale/Narrabri, NSW |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | * Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents Only
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| Position reports to the | Team Leader |
| Client Focus – Internal | 20% |
| Client Focus – External | 80% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | Contact Warren Conaty via email at Warren.Conaty@csiro.au or phone +61 2 67991515 |
| How to apply | Apply online at <https://jobs.csiro.au/> Internal applicants please apply via **Jobs Central**If you experience difficulties when applying, please email careers.online@csiro.au or call 1300 984 220. |

### Role Overview

The role of Research Projects staff in CSIRO is to collaborate in scientific activities with other research staff usually by assisting with detailed planning, undertaking or assisting with experimental and observational work, and in carrying out the more practical aspects of the work.

The Cotton Breeding Group develops new cotton varieties for the Australian cotton industry. We undertake significant field and glasshouse-based plant breeding activities at the Australian Cotton Research Institute (ACRI) in Narrabri, as well as testing advanced breeding material at multiple off-station sites across the entire industry. Taking a hands-on approach, the Agricultural Research Technician will provide high levels of assistance in day-to-day breeding operations and breeding research. Their key focus will be assisting in the development of new varieties, creating novel and diverse genetic resources, and testing/adapting new methodologies (or technologies)- all with the aim of delivering impact to the CSIRO Cotton Breeding program. This role will participate in the planning and execution of breeding experiments at both ACRI, Myall Vale and off-station sites, assisting with the progress of breeding research in the field and controlled environments.

This role will also participate in the experimental design, data capture and sample processing from field and glasshouse experiments. The Research Technician will be required to work as an important team member as well as independently in the Breeding Support team to develop enhanced new varieties suitable for all cotton growing regions of Australia.

### Duties and Key Result Areas:

* Coordination and execution of sowing, weeding, maintenance, observations and harvest of cotton field breeding experiments at Myall Vale and off-station sites. Please note this position requires willingness and ability to travel to these sites at short notice during cotton planting and harvest.
* Planning, progressing and testing of newly created cotton genetic resource in field and/or glasshouse.
* Adapting and/or developing original methodologies/practices/ideas in support of existing and further research.
* Capture, collate, enter and maintain data with computer spreadsheet program and in-house used database system in an accurate and secure manner.
* Operate research equipment and agricultural machinery for cotton breeding and breeding research.
* Assist with other operations within the CSIRO cotton breeding program, such as crossing, glasshouse operations, post-harvest sample processing and trial preparation.
* Be an active member of a large team, assisting in running an extensive cotton breeding program aimed at developing improved cultivars.
* Provide instruction and assist other staff to complete allocated tasks and activities, as required.
* Communicate effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation.
* Work as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team, to carry out tasks under limited direction in support of scientific research.
* Work collaboratively with colleagues within your team, the business unit and across CSIRO, to reach objectives.
* Provide instruction on activities pertaining to the immediate work area and responsibilities, as required.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Values, Health, Safety and Environment plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals.
* Other duties as directed.

## **Required Competencies:**

* **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Proactively seeks and considers the ideas and opinions of others from within and outside the team to help form decisions, plans or actions.
* **Influence and Communication:** Puts forward ideas by presenting factual information supported by data, definitions, examples, illustrations or other aids, which will assist in conveying meaning.
* **Resource Management/Leadership:** Provides instruction and assists other staff to complete allocated tasks and activities.
* **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Identifies and considers the implications of a range of available alternatives in order to select the most appropriate response to problems of a familiar or recurring nature.
* **Independence:** Recognise and makes immediate changes to improve performance (faster, better, lower cost, more efficiently, better quality, improved client satisfaction).
* **Adaptability:**Willingness to change ideas or perceptions based on new information, contrary evidence or other people's points of view. Prepared to try out different approaches.

## **Selection Criteria**

#### Essential

*Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all essential criteria can be appointed.*

1. **Current driver’s licence (C)**
2. Proven experience or demonstrated interest in conducting and maintaining field and glasshouse experiments.
3. Demonstrated understanding and experience of experimental design and procedures and the ability to capture, collate, enter and maintain data.
4. Demonstrated willingness and/or experience in the operation of research equipment and agricultural machinery.
5. The ability & willingness to gain new skills, contribute and use novel ideas and practices in support of scientific investigations.
6. The ability to lift, bend, walk and undertake repetitive motions and the ability to undertake manual handling and operate equipment safely in accordance with Health and Safety Procedures.
7. The ability to work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team, and carry out tasks under general direction from Scientific Researchers.
8. The ability and willingness to work in harsh and adverse conditions whilst maintaining health and safety requirements.

## **Desirable:**

1. Previous experience and knowledge in plant breeding, or previous involvement with field crop (preferably cotton) production and experimentation.
2. Forklift (LF) license and chemical application certification (AQF3); Competent Operation of Machinery (or equivalent), HC driver’s licence (or ability to obtain).

Special Requirements

Appointment to this role may be subject to conditions including provision of a national police check as well as other security/medical/character clearance requirements.

* The successful candidate will be asked to obtain and provide evidence of a National Police Check or equivalent. Please note that people with criminal records are not automatically deemed ineligible. Each application will be considered on its merits.
* The successful candidate will be required to undertake a pre-employment medical examination prior to commencement.

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