# Position Details

## Research Projects- CSOF3

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| The following information is for applicants | |
| Advertised Job Title | Research Technician in Entomology |
| Job Reference | 80526 |
| Tenure | Specified Term of 3 years  Full-time |
| Salary Range | AU$66k to AU$84k pa (pro-rata for part-time) + up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Brisbane (Dutton Park) QLD |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | Australian Citizens Only |
| Position reports to the | Team Leader |
| Client Focus – Internal | 80% |
| Client Focus – External | 20% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | Contact Matthew Purcell via email at [Matthew.Purcell@csiro.au](mailto:Matthew.Purcell@csiro.au) or phone +61 7 3833 5504  or  Contact Michelle Rafter via email at [Michelle.Rafter@csiro.au](mailto:Michelle.Rafter@csiro.au) or phone +61 7 3833 5549 |
| 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](mailto:careers.online@csiro.au) or call 1300 984 220. |

**Acknowledgement of Country**

CSIRO acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, sea and waters, of the area that we live and work on across Australia. We acknowledge their continuing connection to their culture and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. [View our vision towards reconciliation](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/Indigenous-engagement/Reconciliation-Action-Plan)

### Role Overview

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

The Research Technician in Entomology role will join the USDA ARS ABCL team of the Health and Biosecurity Business Unit of CSIRO. This multidisciplinary, multi-location team undertakes research to identify, test, deploy and evaluate biological control agents for weeds of agricultural and/or natural ecosystems.

The position will undertake intensive laboratory-, glasshouse-, quarantine- and field-based research support activities that are critical to the efficiency with which the team is able to deliver on externally funded projects. In addition, the role will work across multiple projects with multiple supervisors, across a diverse team of scientists and technicians in Australia and overseas. The role may involve extended periods of travel for fieldwork in Australia and/or overseas.

### Duties and Key Result Areas

* Provide scientific and technical input into research on plant-insect interactions to develop biological control agents for important weeds in the United States, Australia and internationally.
* Participate in laboratory-, glasshouse-, quarantine- and field-based experimental work by implementing agreed protocols, identifying areas for improvement and proposing/developing solutions.
* Collect and process experimental data (incl. basic analysis) with a high level of care on an ongoing basis and produce reports for supervisor(s).
* Assist in the repair/maintenance/care of research equipment.
* Develop and maintain skills in the area of weeds and plant-insect interactions relevant to weed biological control.
* Maintain confidentiality when working with commercially sensitive information.
* Conduct literature reviews, investigations and inspections in the field or laboratory including associated analysis possibly involving statistical or graphics software.
* Perform some non-routine analyses or technology development activities using a range of techniques, often working on a number of parallel and competing tasks.
* Work with discretion to decide on the timing of operations within the work team’s plan and plan ahead to meet experimental and/or project demands.
* May have responsibility for maintaining laboratory or fieldwork consumables and scheduling and instructing staff in the use of shared equipment.
* Oversee the activities of less experienced staff and provide guidance on experimental/ technological techniques and protocols as required.
* Respond courteously and efficiently to client requests, maintaining clear communication regarding mutual expectations and monitoring client satisfaction.
* Communicate openly, effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation.
* Work collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team to carry out tasks under limited direction in support of CSIRO’s scientific objectives.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Values, Code of Conduct, Health, Safety and Environment procedures and policy, Diversity initiatives and Making Safety Personal 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. Relevant degree or equivalent relevant work experience in science or related field.
2. A current driver’s licence
3. Demonstrated hands-on ability to conduct laboratory and/or field-based experiments with insect herbivores and plants.
4. Demonstrated ability and willingness to conduct fieldwork across a range of ecosystems, including in remote locations in Australia and overseas.
5. Good oral and written communication skills including the demonstrated ability to collect and collate results to provide to supervisors.
6. Well-developed computing skills in using Microsoft Office, Word and Excel.
7. Self-motivated with the ability to work in a team environment, utilise resources effectively, meetdeadlines, and adapt to a dynamic work environment while maintaining work quality andperformance.
8. Capacity to undertake, or learn, basic analyses of data in relation to experiments, and to interpret and report results to supervisors.

## **Desirable**

1. Work experience in horticulture, land management and/or a quarantine laboratory.
2. Knowledge or research experience in ecology or molecular biology.

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 required to obtain and maintain a security clearance at the Baseline level.
* To be willing and able to undertake fieldwork and travel, including to remote locations and overseas as required, which may be up two weeks in duration.

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CSIRO is a values-based organisation.  In your application and at interview you will need to demonstrate behaviours aligned to our values of:

* 1. People First
  2. Further Together
  3. Making it Real
  4. Trusted

Find out more about CSIRO [Health and Biosecurity](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/BF)