# Position Details

## Research Scientist/Engineer- CSOF5

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| The following information is for applicants | |
| Advertised Job Title | Project Manager – Biological Farming Systems Innovation |
| Job Reference | 82585 |
| Tenure | Specified Term to 30th June 2025  Full-time / Part time - Negotiable |
| Salary Range | AU$102k to AU$111k pa (pro-rata for part-time) + up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Canberra (Black Mountain) ACT |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | * Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents * Australian Temporary Residents currently residing in Australia (visa sponsorship may be provided to eligible candidates) |
| Position reports to the | Team Leader – Systems Group, Canberra |
| Client Focus – Internal | 20% |
| Client Focus – External | 80% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | alan.richardson@csiro.au  or phone +61 04 77720294 |
| 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. |

### Role Overview

The role of Project Manager will contribute to the effective development, management, and delivery of a portfolio of research projects in farming systems innovation especially in biologicals for agricultural performance. The Project Manager will be a part of a larger, high performing, multidisciplinary project team working with agribusiness to evaluate biologicals and other novel inputs across a range of short to long term projects.

This role is within the Systems Program of CSIRO Agriculture and Food**.** The Systems Program develops and deploys innovative farming systems research to sustain and enhance agriculture within Australia and across the globe. The Systems Group supports sustainable production for pasture and crop systems across broad-acre farming across wide geographical and climatic regions.

CSIRO’s mandate is to deliver world-class research that provides innovative solutions for industry, government, and the community. The Project Manager will work closely with existing external industry partners to support and build collaborations and facilitate vibrant communication and innovation through partnership. The project will be led from Canberra with project nodes across multiple sites and locations.

The project manager will have the opportunity to work closely with CSIRO scientific teams and contribute to shaping the portfolio of research activity together with CSIRO partners. They will build and maintain professional networks across agribusiness including substantial engagements with grower groups and potentially other research agencies.

Activities of the role will include a combination of project management that will include liaison with research partners, operational design and oversight of laboratory, glasshouse and field work that is initially directed as soil biologicals, oversight of project budgets, milestones and timelines, contribution to portfolio management and development including facilitation of new project ideation and establishment. This role would suit a professional with a strong grounding in agricultural science combined with expertise in project management.

### Duties and Key Result Areas

* Provide project management expertise across a portfolio of research projects. Assist collaborative research teams in managing and reporting project progression including research outcomes, operational needs, and resources.
* Work collaboratively with research teams and industry partners to build and maintain a high performing relationship that delivers scientific outcomes and supports innovation in sustainable agriculture.
* Contribute to research planning and the creation of research projects and directions, requiring originality, creativity, and innovation to functionally evaluate novel farming systems innovations including the application of biological products for crop improvement and sustainable farming
* Ensure timely project delivery including the collation of data, interpretation and summarizing of findings and reporting of results to management committee, external clients and other relevant stakeholders and the wider scientific community.
* Coordinate experimental and/or observational research activities, often requiring the supervision of staff and liaison with external partners to ensure experiments are established and conducted in accordance with design and best practice science.
* Work collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team to carry out tasks in support of CSIRO’s scientific objectives.
* Maintain confidentiality when dealing with commercially sensitive information.
* 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.
* 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:** Cooperates with others to achieve organisational objectives and may share team resources in order to do this. Collaborates with other teams as well as industry colleagues.
* **Influence and Communication:** Uses knowledge of other party's priorities and adapts presentations or discussions to appeal to the interests and level of the audience. Anticipates and prepares for others reactions.
* **Resource Management/Leadership:** Allocates activities, directs tasks and manages resources to meet objectives. Provides coaching and on the job training, recognises and supports staff achievements and fosters open communication in the team.
* **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Investigates underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develops appropriate responses by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions.
* **Independence:** Plans, sets and works to meet challenging standards and goals for self and/or others. Recognises where endeavours will make the most impact or difference, decides on desired outcome and sets realistic goals to reach this target.
* **Adaptability:**Copes with ambiguity or situations that lack clarity. Adapts readily to changing circumstances and new responsibilities (which may include activities outside own preferences) in the interests of achieving team objectives. Recognises the need for and undertakes personal development as a result of change.

## **Selection Criteria**

#### Essential

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

1. A PhD or equivalent research and/or management and industry experience in a relevant field such as agronomy, soil biology, plant pathology or biological-based farming systems.
2. A strong background and/or demonstrated experience in scientific research and/or science business development, including engagement with scientists, industry, and the public sector.
3. Experience or a good understanding of designing and coordinating field trials and working with contract research organisations, grower groups and advisory committees for management, analysis, and presentation of research data.
4. Demonstrated experience in problem solving, including project design and establishment, navigation of operational and resource requirements across a research portfolio and management of project delivery.
5. Strong written and oral communication skills with demonstrated experience in report writing and evidence of a publication history in scientific papers in peer reviewed journals and/or as technical reports.

## **Desirable**

1. Experience and/or knowledge in application of digital agriculture-based technologies for real-time plant and crop imaging, data collection, storage, and analysis.
2. Experience and/or knowledge in application of biological farming systems and functional understanding of soil biology
3. Experience and/or good understanding of IP management and product patenting.
4. A current driver’s licence.

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.
* If the successful candidate is not an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident, they may be required to undergo additional security clearances, which may include medical examinations and an international standardised test of English language proficiency (i.e., IELTS test). - https://ielts.com.au/
* The successful candidate must be willing and able to conduct overnight trips to field sites in regional locations.
* Negotiation for appointment in a part-time capacity is welcome.

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

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