# Position Details

## Research Projects- CSOF3

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| The following information is for applicants |
| Advertised Job Title | Research Projects Officer - Plant tissue culture  |
| Job Reference | 95293 |
| Tenure | Full-time until 31 December 2026 |
| Salary Range | AU$68,148 - AU$86,733 per annum (pro-rata for part-time)plus up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Black Mountain, Canberra, ACT |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | * Australian/New Zealand Citizens
* Australian Permanent Residents
* Australian Temporary Residents with full working rightly without any kind of visa sponsorship support till 31 December 2026.
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| Position reports to the | Team leader |
| Client Focus – Internal | 0% |
| Client Focus – External | 100% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 1 |
| Enquire about this job | Contact Ian via email at ian.greaves@csiro.au or phone +61 2 6246 4828 |
| 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. |

**Acknowledgement of Country**

CSIRO acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, sea and waters, of the areas 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).

**Child Safety**

CSIRO is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people involved in our activities and programs. View our [Child Safe Policy](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/policies/child-safe-policy).

### 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 Officer will join a successful, internationally recognised team of scientists, each with a proven track record of generating and publishing high-profile interdisciplinary research. The interdisciplinary team comprises of expertise in plant genetics, plant gene silencing or RNA interference and pest/pathogen biology and perform research that aims to improve crop production and pest management.

Crops are susceptible to insect pests which can impact yield and industry return. The Research Officer will be responsible for undertaking plant transformation and tissue culture activities using different RNAi constructs to target plant insect pests. Activities will involve construct design and development, cotton plant transformation and tissue culture along with *N. benthamiana* leaf infiltration assays and tobacco plant transformation. The successful applicant will use molecular biology techniques to verify construct design and transformation events within plants.

### Duties and Key Result Areas

* Undertake plant transformation and tissue culture activities to develop GM plant lines.
* Conducting transient leaf expression assays in Nicotiana benthamiana.
* Taking care ofplant populations in the glasshouse/growth cabinets, including sowing, transplanting, sampling, and molecular characterization.
* Assisting in timely planning of experiments, participating in project meetings and working closely with other team members.
* Under limited supervision, design and perform straightforward experiments and routine laboratory analyses.
* May have responsibility for maintaining laboratory or fieldwork consumables and scheduling and instructing staff in the use of shared equipment.
* Respond courteously and efficiently to client requests, maintaining clear communication regarding mutual expectations and monitoring client satisfaction.
* Work collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary research team to carry out tasks in support of CSIRO’s scientific objectives.
* 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 and diversity initiatives.
* Other duties as directed.

## **Selection Criteria**

#### Essential

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

1. Relevant trade certificate/diploma/bachelor’s degree or equivalent relevant work experience in biological science.
2. Experience in plant transformation and tissue culture.
3. Demonstrated experience in the preparation of molecular biology reagents and conducting molecular assays such as PCR assays.
4. Excellent organizational and record keeping skills.
5. Good oral and written communication skills.
6. Demonstrated commitment to a high level of personal performance and a track record of following good Health and Safety practices at work.
7. Ability to be adaptable and flexible in assigned tasks as work priorities change or in response to externally imposed commercial deadlines and to self-manage allocation of time to tasks.
8. **A history of professional and respectful behaviours and attitudes in a collaborative environment.**

## **Desirable**

1. Experience in Insect rearing.
2. Computer skills such as bash and R script would be helpful.
3. Familiarity with Northern Blott analysis.
4. Ability to maintain and grow plants.

## **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.

Special Requirements

Appointment to this role is subject to provision of a pre-employment background check and may be subject to other security/medical/character clearance requirements.

## **About CSIRO**

We solve the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology. Visit [CSIRO Online](http://www.csiro.au/) and [Agriculture and Food - CSIRO](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/people/business-units/Agriculture-and-Food) for more information.

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

* People First
* Further Together
* Making it Real
* Trusted