# Position Details

## Research Projects- CSOF2

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| The following information is for applicants | |
| Advertised Job Title | Agricultural Research Assistant |
| Job Reference | 98558 |
| Tenure | Indefinite  Full-time |
| Salary Range | AU$59k to AU$71k 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 |
| Position reports to the | Team Leader |
| Client Focus – Internal | 90% |
| Client Focus – External | 10% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | Jo Beckhouse ([jo.beckhouse@csiro.au](mailto:jo.beckhouse@csiro.au), 02 6799 1560) |
| 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

Research Projects staff in CSIRO collaborates 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. This role will assist the Breeding Group in general field and greenhouse operations and maintenance, sampling experiments, processing samples and sowing and harvesting cotton experiments at Myall Vale as well as a number of other regionally located sites in NSW and Qld.

### Duties and Key Result Areas:

* Assist with planting, weeding and maintenance of field experiments. Please note this position requires willingness and ability to travel to these sites at short notice during cotton planting and harvest.
* Assist with hand and machine harvest of experiments at the Australian Cotton Research Institute and other district sites.
* Gin and process machine and hand harvested cotton samples, undertake cotton fibre quality testing.
* Prepare seed for planting, including delinting, packaging and arranging according to plans.
* Assist with other operations within the CSIRO cotton breeding program, such as crossing, leaf tissue sampling.
* Be an active member of a large team, assisting in running an extensive cotton breeding program aimed at developing improved cultivars.
* Operate machinery such as tractors to assist with planting, cultivation, fertiliser, spraying and harvesting.
* Assist with the furrow irrigation of cotton crops when required.
* Work as part of a multi-disciplinary, often 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 and assist other staff to complete allocated tasks and activities, as required.
* Provide instruction on activities pertaining to the immediate work area and responsibilities, as required.
* Respond courteously and efficiently to requests for your services, keep clients informed about progress and redirect requests to appropriate staff when required.
* Under general supervision follow all reasonable instructions including, the method/approach and the techniques that are to be used, in order to perform routine experimental or operational tasks.
* Communicate 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 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:** Demonstrates initiative, actively contributing as a team member. Supports team decisions and keeps other team members up to date about individual actions. Shares all relevant and useful information. Pitches in and helps other team members when necessary.
* **Influence and Communication:** Communicates basic facts in a courteous manner including posing appropriate questions to gain factual information.
* **Resource Management/Leadership:** Provides instruction and assists other staff to complete allocated tasks and activities.
* **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Selects appropriate solutions to clearly defined problems using readily available information. Alternatives are limited and prescribed or apparent.
* **Independence:** Accepts personal responsibility for doing the job well. Looks for opportunities to improve the way things are done and makes recommendations accordingly.
* **Adaptability:**Accepts the need for change to work routines or technology.

## **Selection Criteria**

#### Prerequisite

1. A current driver’s licence
2. 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.
3. The ability to encourage safe work practices within a team environment.

#### Essential

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

1. The desire and enthusiasm to work in agricultural research that helps maintain the vibrant Australian cotton industry
2. The ability and willingness to work in harsh and adverse conditions whilst maintaining health and safety requirements.
3. Capable of working effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team, and carry out tasks under the direction of Scientific Researchers.
4. Competence in computer operation and an understanding of data collection.

## **Desirable:**

1. Experience operating a tractor and other relevant agricultural machinery, particularly within the cotton industry.
2. A current forklift licence.
3. Current chemical application accreditation

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 undertake a pre-employment medical examination prior to commencement.
* The successful candidate will need to be willing and available for overnight travel to field sites at short notice.

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