



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position: **Extension Agronomist,**
defined contract period

Reports to: The HCPSL Manager, with guidance from the HCPSL
Technical Services Team Leader.

Position Purpose

- *The Extension Agronomist delivers training and extension to sugarcane farmers in the Herbert area.*
- *Training and extension delivery focus will be on sugarcane farming systems, crop nutrition, crop agronomy, pest and disease management, farming practices and improvements that address farm productivity and profitability, while minimising environmental impacts. Extension will be through various extension methodologies.*
- *The Extension Agronomist will work with growers and other industry stakeholders to gain adoption of priority practices addressing farm productivity and profitability and downstream water quality.*

Key Accountabilities

- Be responsible for extension activities (extension provision, data collation and reporting) associated with the GBRF HCPSL led Consortium project.
- Undertake reporting (both written and verbal) of activities undertaken under the GBRF HCPSL led Consortium project to the Manager and associated team members.
- To provide crop nutrition (nutrient planning and budgeting activities), agronomy, variety management, harvesting, drainage, weed management, pest and disease services and advice to the local cane industry and the Australian cane industry, through various extension processes.
- Facilitate or assist with the co-ordination and delivery of information through group extension and course training processes (like Six Easy Steps™, Farming 4 Cash™, Back to Basics and the Integrated Weed Management courses).

- Undertake geo-spatial analysis of data that is held by HCPSL and its partners to assist in driving productivity and extension activities that align with the HCPSL Strategic Plan and GBRF HCPSL led consortium project.
- Develop Best Management Practices (BMP) for the cane industry.
- This role includes development and maintenance of key relationships with canefarmers, harvester operators, Wilmar, GBRF, Terrain NRM, SRA, government agencies (like DEH, DNRM, and DAF), industry representative bodies (like CANEGROWERS, AgForce and ACFA), other Productivity Services Groups (like HCPSL, TCPSL, IBPS, and MAS) universities (like TropWater), commercial chemical and fertiliser companies, the AGRO Group, other research/ extension organisations which are working on aligned programs or activities.

Other Accountabilities

- Align with activities associated with other Herbert GBRF funded projects without jeopardising the integrity and delivery of the GBRF HCPSL led Consortium Project.
- Ensure a strong working relationship between TropWater and QDAF Economics project team members.
- Provide assistance to other team members of the GBRF HCPSL led Consortium Project when directed by the HCPSL Manager or HCPSL Technical Services Team Leader (ie. collection of water samples during times when TropWater is unable to reach the district due to adverse weather events or government traffic law enforcement, etc.)
- Ensure that there are strong linkages to the SRA Adoption Team and government extension programs.
- Assist with data collection from growers associated with the GBRF HCPSL led Consortium Project.
- Work to achieving a lasting beneficial culture of collaboration and partnership among industry and partners around agricultural extension in the region.
- Undertake the necessary training and learning to enhance skills and abilities as deemed necessary for the position.
- Assist with the achievement of HCPSL's goals as per the strategic plan and to meet its corporate responsibilities.
- Ensure that the hosting organisation's HR and WPHS policies are strictly followed.

- Undertake other reasonable work-related activities, as requested by the Manager.

Other matters

- Must be a self-starter.
- Must be a team player.
- The Extension Agronomist must work with and complement existing industry driven extension programs delivered by SRA or DAF Extension Services.
- The position will not be involved in any agri-political debate or take a political stance concerning any matters concerning the cane industry. The staff person must take the neutral position when dealing with agri-political debate or decisions.
- The Extension Agronomist must at all times provide agronomic advice in accordance with government rules or legislation.
- The Extension Agronomist at all times must ensure the confidentiality of grower specific data and the host organisation data, in accordance with the Privacy Act.

Key Performance Indicators

KPI's will be used when assessing work performance and reviews. KPIs will be provided in a separate document.

Salary package

- Salary based upon experience and academic qualifications.
- Provision of an appropriate vehicle, as a tool of the trade.
- A superannuation contribution of 11% - 9.5% SG award plus 1.5% extra
- Leave entitlement:
 - 4 weeks annual leave per year with 20% leave loading.
 - 10 days sick leave per year
 - Long service leave of 1.3 weeks per year after 10 years (pro-rata after 7 years)

Requirements

- Must be legally entitled to work in Australia.
- Must be a current holder of an Australian manual car licence.
- The position may be required to work flexible hours which may include out of ordinary working hours and weekends.
- Be prepared to travel for the purpose of work or training, if required.