# Position Description

## Research Projects – CSOF4

The following information is for applicants

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| Advertised Job Title**:** | Research Projects Officer – Tropical Cotton/Grains Cropping Systems |
| Job Reference: | 59068 |
| Relocation Assistance**:** | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required. |
| Applications Are Open To: | [ ]  Australian Citizens Only[x]  Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents Only* [ ]  All Candidates
 |
| Percentage of Client Focus - Internal: | 0% |
| Percentage of Client Focus - External: | 100% |
| Reports to the: | Team Leader |
| Number of Direct Reports: | 0 |
| Name and Contact Details For Applicant Enquiries  | Dr Stephen Yeatesvia email: Stephen.Yeates@csiro.au or phone: +61 7 4753 8588 |
| Contact Details For Applying | Call 1300 984 220 or email careers.online@csiro.au.  |
| How to Apply: | Please apply online at [jobs.csiro.au](https://jobs.csiro.au/) and enter the requisition number**.** Internal applicants please apply via ‘Jobs Central’ through the ‘People Hub’ icon  |

## Role Overview:

Research Projects staff in CSIRO collaborates 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. Research Projects staff may be involved in providing consulting services, science management and/or industry liaison.

The Research Projects Officer will be part of a small CSIRO team in a multi-agency project led by commercial partners and supported by the CRC for Developing Northern Australia (CRC-P) and the Cotton Research and Development Corporation. The officer’s role will include supporting the evaluation of new cotton/grain/forage farming systems in tropical Australia and conducting field based research in remote locations in north-west Queensland. As such, this role will include frequent field trips of up to one week at a time, and will be impacted by the weather, the growth of the crop and availability of the farmer collaborators.

## Duties and Key Result Areas:

* Contribute to the design and planning of field experiments and observational work involving irrigated cotton, grain crops and forages during the tropical wet and dry seasons.
* Implement the field experiments and observational work including taking measurements and performing general experiment management.
* Set up and use relevant agricultural machinery and data measurement equipment at the various research sites.
* Collate and organise collected data.
* Communicate effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation.
* Make significant contributions to the interpretation and communication of research or technological results and may collaborate on drafting presentations to, and/or detailed written reports for, clients and the scientific and/or technology community.
* Provide coaching, on-the-job training and instruction to colleagues, on activities pertaining to the immediate work area and responsibilities, allocate activities, direct tasks and manage resources to meet objectives, as required.
* Adapt and/or develop original experimental methods/equipment/software/concepts/ ideas in support of existing and further research, promptly addressing where methods may not be defined and initiative is required in seeking new approaches to meet experimental and/or technological needs.
* 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, often regionally dispersed research team, and business unit to carry out tasks in support of CSIRO’s scientific objectives.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Code of Conduct, Health, Safety and Environment plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals.
* Other duties as directed.

## Competencies:

1. **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.**
2. **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.**
3. **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.**
4. **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Investigates underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develops appropriate response by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions.
5. **Independence: Recognise and makes immediate changes to improve performance (faster, better, lower cost, more efficiently, better quality, improved client satisfaction).**
6. **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 changes.

## Selection Criteria:

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

1. Relevant Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience in the conduct of agricultural field experiments.
2. Experience in data collection, collation and management of agricultural field experiments.
3. Experience in the use and collaboration & maintenance of agricultural machinery & scientific equipment used in agricultural field experiments.
4. The ability to work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team, and carry out tasks under general direction from Scientific Researchers.
5. The ability & willingness to contribute novel ideas and approaches in support of scientific investigations.

## Desirable Criteria:

1. Experience in taking plant and soil measurements specific to cotton and grain crops.
2. Experience with pest and growth monitoring of cotton and grain crops.

## Special Requirements:

Appointment to this role will require:

* A full driver’s licence.
* The willingness and ability to:
	+ Work in hot and humid weather conditions.
	+ Travel and participate in remote location field trips.
	+ Be flexible and adaptable in an environment where the scheduling of activities are dictated by the stage of the crop and uncontrollable weather conditions.

## About CSIRO:

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Find out more about CSIRO [Agriculture and Food](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/AF)