# Position Description

## Research Projects – CSOF3

The following information is for applicants

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| Advertised Job Title**:** | Research Projects Officer – Cotton Agronomy & Physiology |
| Job Reference: | 61316 |
| Relocation Assistance**:** | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required. |
| Applications Are Open To: | Australian Citizens Only  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: | Group Leader - Integrated Cotton Management |
| Number of Direct Reports: | 0 |
| Name and Contact Details For Applicant Enquiries: | Dr Michael Bange via email: Michael.Bange@csiro.au or phone: 02 67991540  https://people.csiro.au/B/M/Michael-Bange |
| Contact Details For Applying: | Call 1300 984 220 or email [careers.online@csiro.au](mailto: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.

This position is with the Integrated Cotton Management group at Myall Vale and will contribute to developing and applying an understanding of the physiology and agronomy of Australian cotton crops to improve yield, fibre quality, and resource use efficiencies.

Experiments conducted focus on future cotton systems and specifically address climate stress, physiology, dryland research, fibre quality, use of novel growth regulators, use of crop simulation technologies, and developing regional specific agronomy.

## Duties and Key Result Areas:

* Oversee the design, implementation, and management of a range of field and glasshouse experiments located on a field research station and on farmers’ field located throughout the Australian cotton industry.
* Assist in the application of a range of treatments on experiments ranging from growth regulator applications to changes in agronomic practice (e.g. Planting time) and collect measurements of plant/crop growth, yield and fibre quality.
* Implement, maintain and monitor electronic sensing systems to measure variables such as weather and plant/crop stress (e.g. canopy temperature, soil moisture).
* Collate data and undertake preliminary analyses (statistical or graphical) using software tools (e.g. ‘R’ or Excel).
* 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 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.

## CSIRO Competencies:

1. **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.**
2. **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.**
3. **Resource Management/Leadership: Provides instruction and assists other staff to complete allocated tasks and activities.**
4. **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.
5. **Independence: Recognise and makes immediate changes to improve performance (faster, better, lower cost, more efficiently, better quality, improved client satisfaction).**
6. **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.**

## Selection Criteria:

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

1. **Relevant Bachelor’s Degree &/or equivalent experience in Agronomy, or related field research.**
2. **Experience in, or demonstrated ability to organise and conduct field experiments involving crop physiology and/or agronomy.**
3. **Demonstrated understanding of experiment design and procedures as well as the proven ability in accurate data collection, and the use of computers for data handling and preliminary statistical data analyses.**
4. **Proven ability to work independently and as part of a team to effectively handle workloads characterised by regular flow, but with seasonal fluctuations.**
5. **The ability to effectively manage a number of competing priorities simultaneously, and carry out non-routine tasks under general direction.**

## Desirable Criteria:

1. Experience or demonstrated ability in laboratory techniques and procedures, and glasshouse experiments.
2. Preparedness to participate in fieldwork which will sometimes require repetitious and/or rigorous manual labour under sometimes difficult climatic conditions.

## Special Requirements:

This role involves the completion of field work, which requires:

* Travel to field locations that sometimes require overnight stays.
* A current, unencumbered driver’s licence.

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