

CAREER FACT SHEET

Agricultural Technicians

Snapshot

Agricultural Technicians perform tests and experiments, and provide technical support to assist Agricultural Scientists in areas such as research, production, servicing and marketing.

How many are employed in this occupation?	1,500
What are the average weekly earnings for full time workers?	\$1,156
How does unemployment compare with other occupations?	Average
What are the job prospects for this occupation?	Low
What will be the likely future employment growth for the next five years?	Decline

Main employing industries

Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; Public Administration and Safety; Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Manufacturing

Tasks

This occupation may include associated occupations with varying tasks.

- examining topographical, physical and soil characteristics of farmland to determine its most effective use and identify nutrient deficiencies
- assisting in developing new methods of planting, fertilising, harvesting and processing crops to achieve optimum land usage
- identifying pathogenic micro-organisms and insects, parasites, fungi and weeds harmful to crops and livestock, and assisting in devising methods of control
- analysing produce to set and maintain standards of quality
- inspecting livestock to gauge the effectiveness of feed formulae
- assisting in controlled breeding experiments to develop improved crop and livestock strains
- arranging the supply of drugs, vaccines and other chemicals to farmers and farm managers, and giving advice on their use
- collecting and collating data for research
- planning slaughtering, harvesting and other aspects of production processes
- may advise producers on farming techniques and management.

INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

If you're interested in working in the great outdoors on tasks such as cultivating plants, testing soil PH levels, diving for lobsters, or raising livestock, then you should investigate a career in Australia's Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry. The Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry employs a huge number of people in the many roles associated with the supply of fresh and frozen produce and timber to both local and overseas markets. The sheep, beef cattle and grain sectors are Australia's top producers however, there are many other types of farming, such as aquaculture and hydroponics, offering career pathways in a number of specialised areas. The forestry and fishing industries also employ a huge number of people in a range of occupations both directly and indirectly in supporting Australian forests and fisheries.

Possible job pathways

- Agricultural Consultant
- Agricultural Scientist
- Aquaculture Farmer & Workers
- Stock and Station Agent
- Mixed Crop and Livestock Farm Worker
- Meat Inspector
- Quarantine Officer
- Primary Products Inspectors



Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

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