

Position Description

Position title	Entomologist
Reports to	Entomology Leader
Business unit	Research and Development
Location	The position is located primarily in Meringa
Direct reports	Supervision of casual, technical employees, and students as directed by Entomology Leader

Position details

SRA purpose	Sugar Research Australia invests in and manages a portfolio of research, development and adoption projects that drive productivity, profitability and sustainability for the Australian sugarcane industry. We have highly dedicated and passionate people working on industry-critical projects to deliver tangible value outcomes and impact for our industry stakeholders.
Business unit purpose	The Research & Development (R&D) business unit is the key interface between SRA and its industry partners, local productivity services and extension providers. The R&D business unit exists to create tangible impact for industry and is the primary pathway through which SRA converts research and development investments into benefits at the farm and mill. The overarching objective of the business unit is to build strong relationships with industry, develop an SRA-wide understanding of district-level productivity gaps and risks, and apply existing research as a basis for creating solutions/tools/products and services to generate industry productivity gains or manage risks to production. The success of the business unit will be measured in terms of the impact generated; including measurable improvements to district productivity (increased tonnes per hectare and sugar per hectare, together with reduced input costs per hectare), products or programs developed, delivered and adopted, and industry's satisfaction with SRA's overall service offering.
Position purpose	The Entomologist reports to the Entomology Leader and forms part of a group of scientific specialists and translation research projects with the purpose of validating, demonstrating, and delivering entomology research outputs and new innovation to industry. This position contributes to a team engaged in the delivery of entomology research projects, focused primarily on insect pest management.
Key responsibilities	- Contribute to research projects that are consistent with SRA objectives and priorities, taking into account end-users' needs, the potential to make significant scientific progress toward the objective, and the potential to achieve effective implementation; this activity includes developing project proposals and, where appropriate, funding applications. - Under direction assist with planning research trials, providing scientific leadership throughout, ensuring that key aspects of the project are executed in a sound scientific way, analysing and interpreting experimental results, and drawing appropriate conclusions. - Under direction apply project management processes to each activity, ensuring that work is planned, executed and concluded consistent with an agreed timetable, and within allocated people, financial and material resources. - Assist in reporting the outcomes to clients. Contribute to publishing the results in relevant scientific and industry journals, and in other media appropriate to the sugar industry, and using other appropriate channels to communicate the information to SRA stakeholders and other relevant bodies.

	• Demonstrates commitment to fostering the continuous development of a safer, healthier and more sustainable workplace at SRA, in a way that would be expected for this position. • Adhere to SRA's policies, procedures, and Code of Conduct for Staff. • Ensure compliance obligations are upheld, and risks are managed. • Own your professional growth by engaging in development opportunities which enhance your skills and career. • Any other duties as required from time to time.
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Key success factors

Experience, knowledge and capabilities	Essential The Entomologist's role covers a broad range of activities. It is essential to demonstrate experience and/or knowledge in the following: • At least 3 years of active laboratory and field research experience with a significant entomology focus. • Experience in the use of molecular techniques. • Demonstrated ability to work within a team of researchers/technicians/research assistants and to take the lead for a specific well-defined project or several sub-project activities. • Experience with rearing insects under laboratory conditions. • Demonstrated oral and written communication skills. • Ability to use statistical software packages and conduct analysis. • Proven research ability and considerable scientific knowledge in key areas of discipline with developing awareness of the sugar industry and the science that underpins it. • Several years' research experience following completion of their undergraduate studies. • Exercise effective project management skills within the scope of responsibilities. • Ability to work under tropical conditions. Desirable • Experience in plant biosecurity. • Experience in the use of chemical or biological pesticide use. • Experience in the use of farm machinery.
Qualifications, licences and training	Essential • A current driver's licence is required to drive SRA vehicles. • Masters or PhD in Entomology, Crop Protection or related discipline. • Evidence of statistical software training. Desirable • ACDC or ChemCert training. • First Aid Training.