

Position Description

Position title	Agronomist (two-year fixed term)
Reports to	District Manager
Business unit	Adoption
Location	Bundaberg station; regular travel across the Burnett Mary region is required.
Direct reports	N/A

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 Adoption business unit connects SRA with growers, mills, productivity services, advisers and delivery partners to turn research and industry knowledge into practical farming-system change. The Southern District includes diverse production systems across Bundaberg, Isis, Maryborough, Rocky Point and Northern NSW. It is a project-delivery role focused on the support of externally funded irrigation and soil health programmes in this area.
Position purpose	The Agronomist is a two-year fixed-term, grower-facing role delivering agronomy, extension and funded-project activities principally in the Burnett Mary region. It supports improved nutrient, irrigation, soil, crop and environmental management and contributes to SRA Adoption outcomes. This is an individual-contributor role working within approved plans and methods. The position manages assigned activities and grower relationships, seeks specialist input for complex matters and maintains evidence required for project delivery.
Key responsibilities	- Engage and support participating growers, including recruitment, regular farm visits and delivery of farm-specific project outputs. - Assess farm and paddock constraints; interpret soil, crop, nutrient, irrigation and management information; and provide practical recommendations. - Prepare or update nutrient management plans and support efficient nutrient use, implementation of Six Easy Steps guidelines, Smartcane BMP accreditation and improved fallow, soil and crop practices. - Deliver or support workshops, field days, training, presentations and concise technical or communication materials. - Complete baseline and follow-up practice surveys, including Paddock to Reef Projector where required, and record participation and practice change. - Maintain accurate site-visit, advisory, survey and evidence records; contribute to milestone and project reporting; and promptly raise delivery risks. - Work collaboratively with funding body representatives, local industry organisations, SRA scientists and district staff. - Comply with WHS, biosecurity, and confidentiality policies. - 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 • Practical knowledge of agronomy, nutrient, soil, and crop management and the ability to quickly acquire sugarcane-specific knowledge. • Experience providing farm-based technical, extension or project support and translating evidence into practical recommendations. • Ability to collect and interpret farm data, prepare clear plans and records, and use digital survey and reporting tools. • Strong grower communication, relationship-management, workshop and written-reporting skills. • Sound judgement, organisation and ability to work independently within approved plans and collaboratively with partners and specialists. • Ability and willingness to travel regularly and work safely on farms and field sites. Desirable • Experience in the Australian sugarcane industry and/or the Burnett Mary region. • Experience with nutrient management plans, Six Easy Steps, Smartcane BMP and/or Paddock to Reef Projector.
Qualifications, licences and training	Essential • Degree in Agricultural Science, Agronomy, Soil Science, Crop Science, Natural Resource Management or a related discipline. • A current manual driver's licence is required to drive SRA vehicles. Desirable • Relevant nutrient-management, extension or professional certification.