



## Farming

### SHEARING CONTRACTOR



#### WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- **Employing and managing shearing teams and shed staff**  
Hiring shearers, wool handlers, pressers and classers, providing induction and training, organising work schedules, paying wages.
- **Negotiating contract details for shearing with wool growers**  
Communicating with managers/farmers (clients) to determine shed and flock size, number of sheep mobs and shed supplies.
- **Managing the shearing for each shed**  
Organising the work load of each team member to ensure the smooth running of the shed and a quality wool clip for the farmer.
- **Organising the run of shearing sheds**  
Scheduling the shearing program and teams between sheds that allows for location, season and the requirements of farmers to maximise efficiency.
- **Managing the contracting business**  
Maintaining accounts, payments and other records.
- **Classing the wool clip**  
Many shearing contractors are also professional wool classers.



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### WORK CONDITIONS

- Shearing usually takes place in a shearing shed where a coordinated team harvests the wool.
- The number of days spent in each shed will depend on the number of shearing stands in the shed and the size of the team and the flock.
- Sufficient work may be available in the local area allowing travel to and from home on a daily basis or the shearing contractor may live and work away from home for periods of time.
- The shearing contractor has the responsibility for arranging shearing in client's sheds, organising the teams and for all the requirements of the contracting business.

### EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- Shearing contractors need the experience, skills and knowledge that allow them to provide a specialised service.
- Gaining a formal qualification will help you to develop the knowledge and skills that you need to develop a successful contracting business.
- If you are already working at this level, you can have your skills recognised by applying for a qualification with a training provider.





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Career path	Training Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shed overseer You are responsible for organising the shearing shed and team for an efficient wool harvest.</li> </ul>	<p>VOCATIONAL TRAINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate 3 in Shearing</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shearing Contracting Business You work as a sole trader or in a partnership and hire a small number of staff.</li> </ul>	<p>VOCATIONAL TRAINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate 4 in Shearing</li> <li>• Certificate 4 in Wool Classing</li> <li>• Certificate 3 or 4 in Rural Business</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shearing Contracting Company If your contracting business has been successful you may choose to expand the scale of your enterprise and move to a company structure with an increased number of staff.</li> </ul>	<p>VOCATIONAL TRAINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate 4 in Shearing</li> <li>• Certificate 4 in Wool Classing</li> <li>• Diploma/Advanced Diploma of Rural Business Management</li> </ul> <p>TERTIARY EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degree in Agribusiness</li> <li>• Degree in Rural Business Management (or equivalent)</li> </ul>

## Related Jobs

- [Farm manager](#)
- [Farmer](#)
- [Wool classer](#)
- [Rural business manager/owner](#)
- [Company representative](#)
- [Extension officer](#)
- Farm advisor/consultant
- [Agriculture teacher](#)
- Rural agency staff



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