

Careers Information Toolkit





Farming

FARM MANAGER

ALSO CALLED

- Station Manager
- Working Manager



WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- Growing food or fibre
 Sheep for wool and/or prime lambs, beef cattle, other livestock, crops for stock or sale
- Planning, supervising and/or carrying out a wide range of tasks
 Livestock husbandry, pasture/crop management, property and machinery maintenance,
 buying/selling stock or machinery, selecting stock for breeding
- Organising the annual calendar of farm activities
 Joining, lambing/calving, shearing and crutching, flock/herd health program
- Maintaining and/or supervising farm budgets, records and reports
 Purchases/sales, stock records, crop/pasture records, monthly/annual budgets, chemical records, staff/contractor payments
- Communicating with farm owners and other staff
 Discuss business plans and directions with owner/company management, report income and expenditure, manage staff and contractors





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WORK CONDITIONS

- Farm work is very practical and usually outdoors. Depending on the season and activity the hours can be irregular and/or long.
- Supervisors may work as part of a team in the daily activities and/or monitor the work of various teams in different locations.
- Planning on a daily and weekly basis can be affected by prevailing weather conditions.
- Depending on the size and structure of the farm, involvement of both the assistant manager and manager in the daily activities will vary and there will be a certain amount of time spent in the farm office and liaising with owners, advisors, suppliers and contractors.

EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- Employment opportunities are available at the farm management level for individuals who have relevant experience but no managerial qualifications.
- Regular participation in farm field days and discussion/producer groups as well as gaining a formal qualification will help you to develop the knowledge and skills that you need to excel as a manager.
- If you are already working at this level, you can have your skills recognised by applying for an appropriate qualification.
- Skills and/or trade qualifications in a range of related areas such as livestock, cropping, irrigation, mechanics, welding and fabrication, office procedures and bookkeeping can be an advantage.





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Career path	Training Requirements
Overseer (Supervisor/Foreman/Leading Hand)	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
You make decisions about a range of the tasks listed above, especially those involving livestock, crops and pastures and/or machinery. You also organise and supervise other workers and report to the farm owner or manager.	Certificate 4 in Agriculture
Assistant Farm Manager In addition to the responsibilities of the overseer	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
you may be required to maintain farm budgets,	Working towards a
records and reports.	Diploma in Agriculture
Farm Manager	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
You will be responsible for all or most of the above tasks. The degree of your involvement in farm planning and directions and control of the farm budget will vary depending on the size and structure of the farm and/or company.	Diploma in Agriculture TERTIARY EDUCATION Degree in Agriculture (or equivalent)
Pastoral Company Secretary/Manager/ Director Your responsibility will expand with the increas-	VOCATIONAL TRAINING Diploma in Rural Business Management Advanced Diploma in Rural Business Management
ing size of the company and structure of its operations. You could be integrating the efficient management of several properties and planning for future growth and development	TERTIARY EDUCATION Degree in Agribusiness Degree in Rural Business Management Degree in Agricultural Economics (or equivalent)

Related Jobs

- Farmer
- Rural contractor
- Rural business manager/owner
- Company representative
- Extension officer
- Farm advisor/consultant
- Agriculture teacher
- Rural agency staff

