



## Farming

### FARMER

#### ALSO CALLED

- Owner/Manager
- Station owner
- Grazier
- Pastoralist



#### WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- **Growing food or fibre**  
Sheep for wool and 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 related businesses, staff, contractors and family**  
Discuss business plans and directions with family, manager, advisors and bank, manage 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 long.
- The farmer may work as part of a team in the daily activities and 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 the farmer in daily activities will vary and there will be a certain amount of time spent in the farm office and liaising with family, managers, advisors, suppliers and contractors.
- Sufficient funds or financial backing are essential to purchase/ lease and establish the farm and purchase stock, machinery and equipment.
- The farmer has the final responsibility for all aspects of the farm business.
- A large percentage of farms require some off-farm income to remain viable.

### EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- 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 farmer.
- Many farmers choose to have their skills recognised by applying for an appropriate qualification.
- Skills 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.
- Check whether there are training or licensing requirements in your state to do some tasks such as using chemicals or chainsaws, operating a front-end loader or driving a vehicle.



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Career path	Training Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Farmer</li> </ul> <p>People become farmers via a range of pathways – inheritance, working on a farm, in a related occupation or from an unrelated field.</p>	<p>VOCATIONAL TRAINING Diploma in Agriculture</p> <p>TERTIARY EDUCATION Degree in Agriculture (or equivalent)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Farm expansion</li> </ul> <p>If your farm business has been successful you may choose to expand the scale of your enterprise with increased land and stock under your control.</p>	<p>Additional training in business/financial management may be desirable such as:</p> <p>VOCATIONAL TRAINING Diploma in Rural Business Management Advanced Diploma in Rural Business Management</p> <p>TERTIARY EDUCATION Degree in Agribusiness Degree in Rural Business Management Degree in Agricultural Economics</p>

### Related Jobs

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



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