



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**

Plant Pathologist

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Darwin and Eaton – Northern Territory

Full Time - APS 5 - \$78,548 - \$86,168

- Participate in plant health surveillance for biosecurity in the field.
- Conduct investigative plant pathology in the lab.
- Interact with the wide variety of stakeholders in our far north.

Under the direction of senior plant pathology staff, you will work within a team of specialist scientific officers to undertake the following duties, tasks and responsibilities:

- Assist in the conduct of multidisciplinary scientific surveys in remote locations across northern Australia, and possibly in Australian territories and countries to Australia's north as required.
- Collect and process plant pathology samples and specimens on plant health surveys. Perform pathogen identifications using both molecular and conventional techniques, such as light microscopy and serology.
- Curate plant pathogen specimens and samples and assist in the maintenance of a laboratory and a working specimen/sample reference collection.
- Conduct day-to-day operations of the plant pathology laboratory, including ordering consumables, negotiating with suppliers, safety, and record keeping.
- Collate and evaluate project data, including data entry, retrieval and analysis, using a computer database, and prepare various reports and required.
- Assist in the development and preparation of training and extension materials and participate in public awareness activities including indigenous community liaison initiatives.
- Promote and ensure effective implementation of APS Values, Code of Conduct, WHS and rehabilitation policies.

What we are looking for

Knowledge and experience

- Tertiary qualifications in agriculture or biological science (minimum Degree) and field and laboratory experience in plant pathology is required.
- Ability to travel in remote locations in northern Australia or its near northern neighbours, using a variety of transport including vessels, light aircraft, helicopters and four wheel drive vehicles.
- Perform occasional out of hours and weekend work when on survey or performing other regional official duties.
- Work in difficult, remote locations and harsh environments for extended periods. Hold and maintain a current manual driver's license. Required to complete training required to perform the core duties of the position, including First Aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and field safety training.

Skill and capabilities

- Well-developed ability to perform routine diagnostics of plant diseases.
- Well-developed skills in recording data, analysing information, preparation of reports and documentation.
- Ability to perform in difficult, remote locations and harsh environments for extended periods.

Mandatory Qualifications

Tertiary qualifications in agriculture or biological science (minimum Degree) and field and laboratory experience in plant pathology as required.

Eligibility and other requirements

Citizenship – To be eligible for employment with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, you must be an Australian citizen.

Flexible employment arrangements are available with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Applications close: 27 September 2023

For further information and to apply, please visit:

<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/about/jobs/apply>