

Job Description

Position Title: Research Officer (Viticulture Pathology)

Classification: PO1

Agency: Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA)

Division: South Australian Research & Development Institute

Branch: Sustainable Systems

Business Unit: Plant Health & Biosecurity

Location: Urrbrae, SA - 5064

Hours of duty: 37.50 hours per week

Salary: \$63,019 - \$76,961 per annum

Employment status: Term Contract, available until 30 June 2022

Type of appointment:

Ongoing

Term contract

Casual

ANZSCO code: 0000

Position number: P8378

Application Requirements

Applications must be submitted online via <http://iworkfor.sa.gov.au/>, citing Reference Number: 337176

If you are interested in this opportunity, please submit a Covering Letter (no more than 3 pages) outlining your skills and experience in relation to the Professional and Technical Knowledge, Collaborative Approach and Communication capabilities of the role description and a current CV (no more than 5 pages). Applicants must include the contact information of at least 2 referees with 1 being your immediate supervisor/manager and a completed "Pre-Employment Declaration in the SA Public Sector" form (declaration is available from the iworkforSA advertisement).

Applications close: 8 February 2019 11:45 PM

Enquiries: Suzanne McKay on 8429 2215 or Suzanne.mckay@sa.gov.au

Our organisation

Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) assists South Australia's primary industries and regions to grow, innovate and maximise their economic growth potential.

We involve and engage with all levels of government, industry, academia and the broader community. This ensures we make good decisions, have clear and relevant policies, plan and implement effective programs and broker shared responsibility.

PIRSA comprises approximately 900 people working in locations across metropolitan and regional South Australia.

Our industries and regions

South Australia's agriculture, food, wine and forestry industries are a vital part of the state's economy, our largest export sector and a major employer. South Australia has a global reputation for producing world-leading food for local consumption and international export. In 2016-17, they generated about \$22.5 billion in revenue and accounted for 57% of the state's merchandise exports. In 2014-15, regional South Australia contributed about \$25.4 billion to the state's economy (revenue from all industries) with just 29% of the state's population.

Our values

The South Australian public sector values are central to the way we work. Service, professionalism, trust, respect, collaboration and engagement, honesty and integrity, courage and tenacity and sustainability are the cornerstones for how we interact with industry, community, other government agencies and each other.

Our expectations

- You accept responsibility for your own and others safety and will adopt appropriate hazard management practices consistent with the role, including contributing towards the completion of the Site Safety Management Plans.
- You uphold the ethical behaviour and professional integrity standards as contained in the *Public Sector Act, 2009*.
- You familiarise yourself with the *Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector* and ensure that you



follow it.

- You participate in PIRSA's Performance Management and Development Program.
- You may be assigned alternative duties consistent with PIRSA's business needs and/or the developmental needs arising from your performance review conversations.
- You contribute to whole-of-agency working groups developing PIRSA policy responses to significant and emerging issues as required.
- You undertake training and participation in emergency management activities as required.
- You implement and maintain security in line with whole-of-government and agency policies.
- You adhere to the PIRSA Smoke Free Policy.

Your work health and safety obligations

- You follow workplace safety procedures by:
 - Accepting responsibility for own and other's safety
 - Actively participating in consultation about work, health and safety issues
 - Identifying and reporting hazards and identifying risk controls where appropriate

About the role

The Research Officer (Viticulture Pathology) is part of the Sustainable Systems research division within the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI).

Research in the Sustainable Systems division includes broad-acre cropping, viticultural and horticultural systems, comprising science programs in Plant Health and Biosecurity, Entomology, Soil Biology and Diagnostics, New Variety Agronomy and Crop Improvement Science areas, Climate Applications as well as Water Resources, Viticulture and Irrigated Crops. The Division has approximately 130 scientific and technical staff located at the Waite Campus, Clare, Port Lincoln, Loxton, Minnipa, Nuriootpa and Struan research centres. The Division assists the South Australian agricultural sectors by breeding and evaluation of new varieties, improving crop agronomy and providing practical and productive ways to maintain production by managing risk from SA's variable and changing climate, plant diseases and pests.

The Plant Health and Biosecurity Science program conducts targeted research and development in plant pathology and plant biosecurity as well as offering plant disease diagnostic services and operating a post-entry quarantine facility. Research supports market access and sustainable production with scientific expertise in mycology, pathogen biology and pesticide resistance management strategies. The science program has strong national networks, and a strong track record on communication and technology transfer to industry. This role sits within the Plant Health and Biosecurity Science program in the Sustainable Systems division.

The Wine Australia funded project, SAR 1707-1.2, "Fungicide Resistance in Australian Viticulture" aims to better understand fungicide resistance of powdery mildew, downy mildew and botrytis bunch rot to improve current resistance management strategies. Under the supervision of the Senior Research Scientist and direction of the Senior Research Officer, the Research Officer (Viticulture Pathology) is responsible for the

- Planning, conducting and analyses of experimental research in to fungicide resistance of powdery mildew and downy mildew
- Collaboration with our research partners, Curtin University, Western Australia, on fungicide resistance in botrytis bunch rot and the Australian Wine Research Institute on molecular aspects of powdery and downy mildew resistance
- Liaison with project and industry collaborators to plan and carry out research activities
- Preparation of written material and oral presentations to communicate research findings to scientists, industry and extension personnel
- Preparation of the annual progress reports and final report for Wine Australia

The Research Officer contributes to the professionalism and competitive position of the organisation as a research provider by enhancing the expertise within the Plant Health and Biosecurity program area.

Other requirements specific to the role include:

- Possession of a current driver's licence and a willingness to drive.

- Possession of a current Chemical Accreditation certificate or the willingness to obtain one
- Some out of hours work and country travel may be required.
- Intra/interstate/overseas travel, including absence overnight for short periods, will be required.
- You will be exposed to potential allergens as well as be involved with the safe use of agricultural pesticides

Essential qualifications

A degree in Agricultural Science, Science, or related discipline.

Key results

- Plan, coordinate and carry out experiments using sound scientific principles that contribute to an effective research program in consultation with and with guidance from the Senior Research Scientist and Senior Research Officer, other SARDI and project partners and key industry collaborators, ensuring stakeholder contribution.
- Conduct experimental work using specific protocols and processes that comply with Work Health Safety legislation to achieve project milestones
- Achieve project milestones within budget.
- Record, collate, statistically analyse and interpret data.
- Under the direction of senior research staff, prepare industry and peer-reviewed written material on completed work and regularly communicate research findings, both verbally and in writing, to other scientists, extension personnel and industry.
- Contribute to correspondence, briefings and other information to meet stakeholder, agency and other reporting requirements.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with key stakeholders including consulting and liaising with relevant SARDI staff, collaborators, industry and the community.

Key relationships

- Reports to the Senior Research Officer, and in their absence to the Senior Research Scientist Officer
- Works in a team of scientists within the Plant Health and Biosecurity area.
- Builds strong working relationships with collaborators at Curtin University, Western Australian and the Australian Wine Research Institute, as well as with industry personnel and growers.
- Provides direction to casual technical staff.

Capabilities profile

Capability	Behaviours
Professional & Technical Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates an understanding of the principles of plant pathology, disease management and viticultural production. • Demonstrates the ability to plan and conduct experiments in accordance to sound scientific principles. • Demonstrates a good knowledge of issues relating to fungicide resistance. • Experience in the recognition of or an ability to recognise grapevine diseases as well as a working knowledge of the biology of powdery mildew, downy mildew and botrytis bunch rot of grapevines. • Demonstrates skills in plant pathology • Demonstrates the ability to analyse and interpret data, and contribute to the preparation of scientific reports. • Knowledge of the safe and correct usage of laboratory, greenhouse and field equipment. • Ability to use agricultural pesticides safely and effectively in an experimental setting. • Demonstrates the ability to effectively use a range of software

	<p>relevant to the role such as Excel, Word, Outlook, web-based search engines, Power Point and statistical packages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes responsibility for keeping up to date with current developments and knowledge in the professional field.
<p>Collaborative Approach Works easily with others to achieve shared outcomes; recognises issues that impact on others; seeks out, and is open to, input from other key players before making decisions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works easily with others to achieve shared outcomes and recognises issues that may impact on others. • Develops ideas and solutions in collaboration with others and remains open to ideas.
<p>Problem Solving Identifies, defines and solves everyday problems relating to work role</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explores and evaluates a range of options to find a practical and simple solution. • Consults with others about their opinions and experiences. • Exercises sound judgement in developing and choosing from a range of practical options.
<p>Quality Focus Demonstrates continuous drive, enthusiasm and the ability to deliver high quality results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completes tasks accurately according to agreed standards and protocols. • Complies with Work Health and Safety legislation and Codes of Practice. • Exercises a professional approach to duties.
<p>Communication Communicates effectively with a wide range of people and expresses ideas clearly and coherently, both verbally and in writing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates effectively with a wide range of people, adapting style to match the audience and the situation both verbally and in writing. • Shares information freely and clearly in a way that can be understood by others.
<p>Attention to Detail Pays attention to detail to ensure one's own work is timely, accurate and reliable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the implications of inaccuracies. • Is organised and careful in their work. • Checks and monitors own work.
<p>Flexibility Adapts to changes in requirements; adapts behaviour in response to constructive feedback</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes focus and gives full attention to current requirements. • Willingly adopts different approaches in order to achieve results.
<p>Learning Orientation Keen to learn new skills and understand new ideas; learns quickly from feedback and from experience; seeks opportunities to expand knowledge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops and maintains personal and professional competence. • Demonstrates a desire to improve personal knowledge and skills.

Flexibility Statement

The South Australian public sector promotes diversity and flexible ways of working including part-time. Applicants are encouraged to discuss the flexible working arrangements for this role.