

## **Position: Research Agronomist, Wheatbelt WA**

**Department** Kalyx Agriculture, Western Australia  
**Location** Central Wheatbelt  
**Reporting To** Barrett Sinclair

### **About Kalyx Agriculture**

Kalyx Agriculture is a private agricultural research and development company based in Western Australia. Through the provision of independent research we evaluate pesticides, conduct crop variety and nutrition trials and provide field services to a range of organisations.

### **Position Requirements**

Due to the nature of the position, you may occasionally be required to travel away from your principal location. You will be provided with guidelines of when it is advisable to stay away overnight as compared to driving back to your principal location. These guidelines are subject to health, safety and fatigue considerations. When required to stay away overnight your accommodation and meal costs are met by the company.

### **Position Specifications**

#### **EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS & SPECIAL TRAINING**

<b>ESSENTIAL</b>	Nil
<b>DESIRABLE</b>	Degree in Agricultural Science Diploma of Agriculture Certificate of Agriculture

#### **KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCE/SKILLS REQUIRED**

<b>ESSENTIAL</b>	General knowledge of broad acre farming systems. Ability to work unsupervised and in a team environment. Good initiative and self motivation. A high level of written and oral communication skills.
<b>DESIRABLE</b>	Knowledge of research trial management. Understanding of broadacre products and technologies. Basic mechanical skills. Sound computer skills. Some level of proficiency in public speaking and extension.

## **Job Summary / Primary Objectives**

- Manage and write reports on an average of 50 trials each season.
- Extend select research findings to clients, growers and the agricultural community.
- Strive to increase the profile and success of Kalyx in the eyes of clients and the general agricultural industry.

## **Principle Duties / Responsibilities / Tasks**

- Conduct an average of 50 trials each year being involved in all aspects of management such as trial site selection, sowing, spraying, assessment and harvest.
- Write trial reports to detail findings to clients.
- Conduct all field trials in a professional manner and ensure that all objectives are met to the satisfaction of clients.
- Manage casual field staff as required.
- Management of all aspects of field research with maximum efficiency.
- Maintenance, repairs and modification of all equipment as required.
- Extension of trial results to clients at field days.
- Presentation of results in a public forum.
- Sourcing ideas from farmers, consultants and industry for research proposals.
- Assist wherever possible in the writing of funding applications.

## **Essential Pre-Employment Requirements**

- Have Australian citizenship or be a permanent resident of Australia.
- Have a valid and current Western Australian C (car) class motor drivers licence or equivalent.

## **Essential Criteria**

- Experience in the cultivation of broad acre agricultural crops.
  - Context of Criterion: The position involves a large percentage of time being spent outdoors in a hands-on role. Preference will be given to applicants with some form of farming background.
- Knowledge of or experience in scientific methods and analytical procedures appropriate to agricultural research.
  - Context of Criterion: Preference will be given to applicants with some form of scientific knowledge or agricultural training. Consideration will, however, be given to those with a willingness to learn relevant skills.
- Effective workplace communication abilities.
  - Context of Criterion: This criterion includes but is not restricted to oral and written communication skills, the ability to develop and maintain networks, interpersonal skills, presentation skills and the ability to work effectively as an individual as well as in a team environment.

- Basic mechanical knowledge or experience in working with agricultural equipment.
  - Context of Criterion: It is not expected that the applicant have any formal training or qualification in this area. It would, however, be advantageous to have some understanding of the general operation and maintenance of agricultural equipment.
- Ability to manage time for maximum efficiency and where required work effectively during periods of increased pressure.
  - Context of Criterion: The successful applicant should demonstrate the ability to manage their time effectively and work under pressure during peak seasonal periods. Good time management skills are essential.
- Proficiency in the operation of computers.
  - Context of Criterion: The applicant will be required to play a part in the writing of research reports. Modern research procedures often involve the use of field computer systems. Hence it is strongly advisable the applicant has some prior knowledge of the operation of computer systems.
- Excellent attention to detail and high quality record keeping skills.
  - Context of Criterion: effective research necessitates attention to detail in all tasks conducted. The successful applicant should be meticulous by nature which should be reflected in the quality of tasks conducted and in the detail of records kept.
- Experience and/or willingness to be involved in the writing of scientific reports.
  - Context of Criterion: Report writing is an important part of the research process. This will account for around 20% of the successful applicant's time and as such, some experience in this process would be highly valuable.

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