

Growing the agriculture workforce

TOWARDS A FIVE-YEAR STRATEGY



Future growth and market opportunities for Queensland agriculture are dependent on a highly trained and skilled workforce. The industry employs over 90,000 people, and commonly experiences difficulties in attracting and retaining skilled workers. As the industry continues to modernise, a skilled and appropriately trained workforce, prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century, is critical for the industry to remain competitive and innovative.

To address workforce issues, Queensland Farmers' Federation and Jobs Queensland are preparing a five-year Workforce Plan for the state's agriculture industry which will be finalised in early 2022. The Plan will respond to the major issues experienced by the industry while anticipating future workforce demand. RJSA is the industry advisory group, providing expertise, strategic advice and access to networks to inform and guide the project.



QUEENSLAND
FARMERS'
FEDERATION

Why a workforce plan?

The Plan will drive action for building the capability of agriculture businesses and their workforce for a contemporary, competitive and adaptable industry. It will strategically respond to the many issues that the agriculture industry has reported:

- Managing workforce shortages
- Developing our workforce and adapting to changing skilling and knowledge requirements
- Attracting and retaining a diverse and inclusive workforce
- Up-skilling workers to respond to innovation and technology opportunities
- Engaging with education and training sectors to ensure that their offering meet sector needs
- Ensuring regulatory compliance in an increasingly complex environment
- Identifying and responding to emerging challenges

Consultation

It is vital that your insight, knowledge and experience is reflected in the priorities and actions in the Plan. Agribusinesses that are employers are invited to a half day workshop in your region to shape the priorities of the Queensland Agriculture Industry Workforce Plan.

During the consultation sessions you will be asked about the following pressures experienced by your business and the wider agriculture industry:

ADAPTABILITY

Growing business capability for innovation and adaptation to change

ATTRACTION AND DIVERSITY

Growing a diverse and inclusive future agriculture workforce

RETENTION

Growing agriculture careers and opportunities and how do we become employers of choice

SKILLING

Growing future workforce skills in agriculture

NAMBOUR

TUESDAY 3 AUGUST
9am for 9.15am – 12pm

DALBY

TUESDAY 24 AUGUST
9am for 9.15am – 12pm

TABLELANDS

TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER
9am for 9.15am – 12pm

EMERALD

TUESDAY 17 AUGUST
8.30am for 8.45am – 11.30pm

AYR

WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER
9am for 9.15am – 12pm

+ ONE MORE

DAY DATE
9am for 9.15am – 12pm

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

As these events are targeting agribusinesses, an online consultation will be available for RTOs, extension officers and other training providers.

Workshop program

9.00am	Registration
9.15am	Welcome
9.30am	Adaptability – Growing a diverse and inclusive future agriculture workforce
10.00am	Attraction and Diversity – Growing an inclusive future workforce
10.30am	Morning Tea
10.50am	Retention – agriculture careers and opportunities and how do we become employers of choice
11.20am	Skilling – Growing future workforce skills in agriculture
11.50am	Wrap up
12.00pm	Lunch

Understanding the context

QFF prepared an environmental scan which provides data on business and sector diversity, workforce, education and training, and emerging issues. This research, together with workforce projections provided by Jobs Queensland, informs the consultations and the development of the Queensland Agriculture Industry Workforce Plan. A two-page infosheet, summarised from the environmental scan, will be made available on the QFF website prior to the workshops.



Be involved

- 1 Register your attendance at one of the workshops online at www.eventbrite.com.au/o/queensland-farmers-federation-9455416823
- 2 Read the summary of issues when it is made available.
- 3 If you are unable to attend any of the consultations and would like to contribute, please send your comments to workforceplanning@qff.org.au

Please contact the workforce planning team for more information at workforceplanning@qff.org.au or (07) 3837 4720

Jobs Queensland will be presenting Workforce Connect workshops at Dalby, Emerald, Tablelands and Ayr directly after the consultations. These workshops are designed to assist agriculture businesses to plan for their workforce needs.

For more information and to register please visit www.eventbrite.com.au/o/queensland-farmers-federation-9455416823

This Agriculture Workforce Plan Project is proudly supported and funded by the Queensland Government.

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