

GROWING AND HARVESTING in the primary industries

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



The primary industries bring billions of dollars to our economy each year and employ one-sixth of New Zealand's workforce. Many of these people work in the growing and harvesting sector, which includes:

- Agriculture – red meat (sheep, cattle and venison), pork, poultry, milk and wool
- Horticulture and viticulture – fruit and vegetables
- Arable – grains and seeds
- Seafood – wild fisheries and aquaculture (fish farming)
- Forestry
- Apiculture (beekeeping).



What kind of work is it?

People are directly involved in the day-to-day tasks of sustainably growing and harvesting animal and plant products. If you're interested in planning or management, you can combine those skills with practical, hands-on work. You would help improve quality, increase productivity and ensure processes are environmentally-friendly.



"Forestry directly employs over 20,000 people and is the third largest export sector – it's a dynamic and technologically-sophisticated industry. There is plenty of potential for skilled workers to become self-employed

and very prosperous. Our research aims to drive innovation in all aspects of the forest industry. We face a positive future in responding to the world's need for wood and energy, climate change and sustainable use of land resources."

Keri-Anne Tane, General Manager – People and Performance, Scion



OPERATIONS MANAGER
Tom Searle Leigh Fisheries

WORK Tom runs the factory and operations – working with fishing crews to put risk management plans for seabirds into practice, to reduce the number of birds killed from commercial fishing.

PATH Rosehill College, final year subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Statistics, PE
Otago University: Degree and Master's Degree in Marine Biology



**AGRIBUSINESS MANAGER/
TUTOR**
Loretta Smyth Northland College

WORK Loretta managed Northland College's dairy farm until recently and taught farming skills to students, she now tutors students full time
PATH Whangaroa College, final year: Art, English, Geography, Hospitality, Science; UCOL: Diploma in Veterinary Nursing; Primary ITO: Diploma in Agribusiness Management



GROUP TECHNICAL OFFICER
Caleb Dennis Craggy Range

WORK Caleb manages the vineyard's technical programme, which includes forecasting yield, monitoring crops and spray programmes
PATH Scots College, final year: Biology, Chemistry, English, History, Statistics
Lincoln University: Degree in Viticulture and Oenology



TECHNICAL FORESTER
Danielle Inglis Nelson Forests

WORK Danielle monitors logging crew costs and productivity, and analyses and audits harvesting data to help ensure crews are in the right place at the right time
PATH Nelson College for Girls, final year: Biology, English, Food and Hospitality, PE, Science
University of Canterbury: Degree in Forestry Science



FARM MANAGER

Mathew Bell
Align Farm Partners

WORK Mathew and his partner manage a 1,075 herd dairy farm
PATH Morrinsville College, final year: Classical Studies, English, Geography, Statistics, Technology
Massey University: Degree in Applied Science



NURSERY VITICULTURIST

Emma Taylor
Villa Maria Estate

WORK Emma manages the Villa Maria Estate nursery and is responsible for propagating vines and distributing them nationally
PATH Corrin School, final year: Biology, Chemistry, English, Geography, Statistics
University of Otago: Degree and Master's degree in Geography



ORCHARD MANAGER

Matthew Nelson Baygold Coach Road and El Dorado

WORK Matt manages up to 100 staff on two kiwifruit orchards
PATH Tauranga Boys' College, final year: Biology, English, Geography, Horticultural Science, Outdoor Education, PE
Lincoln University: Diploma in Horticulture
Bay of Plenty Polytechnic: Certificate in Fruit Production



GROWER/MALTSE

Doug Michael
Gladfield Malt

WORK Doug and wife Gabi run a farm growing barley and a malting business to turn their produce into malt
PATH Ellesmere College, final year: Agriculture, Biology, Chemistry, English, Technology
Lincoln University: Degree in Agricultural Science and diploma in Farm Management

Is there a future in it?

Yes! There is a growing demand for our primary products, so New Zealand needs more people working in the primary industries. Employers particularly want workers with a range of skills and qualifications from Level 4 and above.

The increased use of IT, automation and robotics means that there is a high demand for people with technical skills.

What qualifications will I need?

Times have changed. In the past you could get a job as a farm worker without a formal qualification. Nowadays, the industry wants people who have gained a qualification or are keen to do formal training on the job.

Tertiary qualifications – certificates, diplomas or degrees from a polytechnic or university – in areas such as engineering, forestry, agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, science and agribusiness are all valuable in the growing and harvesting sector.

Starting salaries for people with a technology, engineering or science-related diploma or degree usually range from \$40 – \$60,000, although it depends on your qualification level and experience. Find out what and where you can study, using the online Course Finder at www.futureintech.org.nz/search.cfm



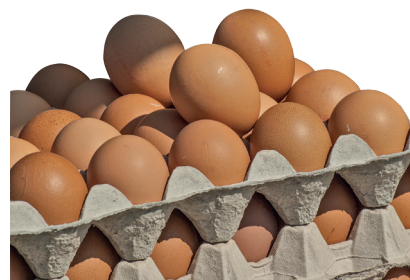
Find out more....

Read stories about people working in the Growing and Harvesting sector of the primary industries – and learn how they got there – at www.futureintech.org.nz

You can also check out primary industry champions at www.mpi.govt.nz/funding-and-programmes/other-programmes/future-skills/growing-our-future/

“In the primary industries we work with land, water, plants and animals to produce food and fibre for the world. We need new talent to help meet New Zealand’s target of doubling the value of exports in the next 10 years. We’re telling young people, ‘You help us grow and we’ll grow you’ – and we really mean it. It’s a win-win.”

Andy Somerville, former CEO, GrowingNZ



Primary Industries

New Zealand Government



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www.mpi.govt.nz