

Monday, 23rd October 2017



Grains research opportunity for graduates to work in SA's Mid-North

Ag science university students in their final year are being encouraged to apply for a twelve month internship in applied grains research with the Hart Field Site Group.

Graduates from previous years and those with honours are also encouraged to apply.

Commencing at the end of February 2018, the internship will be based in Clare, South Australia and has been designed to offer graduates an opportunity to follow their passion for grains research while living and working in a regional area.

Hart's executive officer Sandy Kimber said through the internship program, the group has worked with two outstanding young researchers; Rochelle Wheaton in 2016 and current intern Dylan Bruce.

"Each internship is structured around the growing season allowing interns to work on projects aligned with their particular research interests, from trial planning right through to the evaluation of results," Ms Kimber said.

"It's important that our interns are exposed to a range of researchers, industry specialists and growers during their time with us and Hart is well placed to facilitate that."

Ms Kimber said interest in the program from the agricultural industry has been extremely positive, leading to some excellent regional employment opportunities in grains research for interns at the completion of their twelve month contract.

Current intern Dylan Bruce saw the position as a chance to bridge the gap between university and industry research and something that could help expand his knowledge, experience and professional development when he applied this time last year.

"Right from the start of my internship I have been able follow on with my interest in cereal variety performance by focusing on the management of early sown long season wheats in the Mid-North as one of my main projects," Mr Bruce said.

"I have been able to apply the knowledge I gained during my degree and honours and put this into practice at Hart. This season has also thrown up a number of challenges such as mice, frost and dry conditions which has furthered my understanding of variety performance," he said.

Mr Bruce also said he really appreciates the opportunities to collaborate with leading industry researchers and growers, and develop extension skills through the communication of trial progress and results to different audiences.

Those interested in applying for the internship will have their applications assessed by a selection committee including representatives from Hart, SARDI, and SAGIT. Their academic performance will be reviewed, with consideration given to those with a noted interest and potential in pursuing a career in grain research, development and extension.

The project has ongoing funding secured until 2021, thanks to the South Australian Grain's Industry Trust (SAGIT) and support from SA Research and Development Institute (SARDI).

Check out www.hartfieldsite.org.au for application details or contact Dr Sarah Noack on 0420 218 420, trials@hartfieldsite.org.au.