



Wednesday, August 5, 2020

Applications now open for new two-year Hart regional grains research internship

The Hart Field-Site Group's hugely successful regional internship program will extend to a two-year tenure from next year, giving the successful applicant greater opportunity to make their mark in the grains research industry.

Applications are now open for the 2021 Regional Internship in Applied Grains Research, with students who have completed a Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences or equivalent in the past five years encouraged to apply for the position to begin in Clare in February next year.

The Hart Field-Site Group is one of the country's most highly-regarded for its work over almost 40 years in grains research including weed management and control, soil fertility and crop nutrition, crop entomology and agronomy and seeding systems.

The regional internship program is now in its sixth year and has been developed in conjunction with Hart, the South Australian Grains Industry Trust (SAGIT), and the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI).

Hart chairman Ryan Wood said the new two-year internship model takes the program to a new level and would enable next year's intern to play a significant role in grains industry research in South Australia.

"We're proud of the opportunity we're able to offer graduates to take a hands-on role in valuable grains research being undertaken in the Mid North of SA," he said.

"The beauty of this internship is that research options can be tailored to meet the successful applicant's specific interests in a supported environment, working alongside the Hart research and extension manager.

"Expanding the internship to a two-year role will provide even greater opportunity for the 2021 intern to sink their teeth into grains research while gaining skills in trial design and management, sampling, statistical analysis of data as well as, importantly, having direct communication with growers and advisers.

"The successful applicant also plays an important role in the preparation of Hart's feature events including the Getting the Crop In seminar and the annual Hart Field Day."

SARDI Research Director, Crop Sciences Dr Kathy Ophel Keller said the Hart regional internship program gives the successful applicant an ideal opportunity to kick-start their career in grains research.

"The regional internships are a fantastic way for students to gain exposure to a wide range of research activities which support the grains sector and to understand the bigger picture of the industry," she said.

“The internship provides a great opportunity for students to make valuable contacts with other researchers, growers and advisors.

“Previous interns have commented that they weren’t aware of the full scope of exciting, applied research in the grains sector. The internship has been important in furthering their careers.”

Now six months in to her Hart internship, successful 2020 applicant Brianna Guidera (pictured below) said she would recommend the program to any graduate interested in applying theory to the field, is an active learner and a critical thinker.



“The internship is also ideal for somebody who has an interest in extension of industry research to the farming community,” she said.

“Coming out of a university degree, there is still so much to learn about farming systems and the constraints they face.

“The internship has allowed me to learn about a range of areas of agriculture such as variety selection and performance, herbicides and efficacy, disease identification and control, to name a few.

“It has also taught me a lot about trial planning, execution and data analysis which I have enjoyed, and opened up a larger network of researchers, agronomists and farmers, which is an important link.

“The internship is designed to develop your skills as an upcoming researcher, and the outcomes are very rewarding.”

Applications for the Hart 2021 Regional Internship in Applied Grains Research close on August 28. Full details are available on the Hart website www.hartfieldsite.org.au in the Careers section.

Media contact: Hart Field-Site Group executive officer Sandy Kimber 0427 423 154.