

## Research Fellow in Tree Crop Physiology

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<b>College/Division</b>	College of Sciences and Engineering
<b>School/Section</b>	Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture
<b>Location</b>	Launceston
<b>Classification</b>	Level A or B
<b>Reporting line</b>	Reports to Horticulture Centre Leader

### Position Summary

The [Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture](#) (TIA) is seeking to appoint a Research Fellow in Tree Crop Physiology to co-design and implement research on sustainable tree crop production systems. TIA is looking to appoint an outstanding research-focused early to mid-career researcher, who will be supported to build research and provide leadership. This position will contribute to the new five-year flagship Production, Irrigation, Pests and Soils (PIPS 4 Profit) program funded by Horticulture Innovation Australia. The program aims to address the barriers to sustainable production in apple growing systems as part of an interdisciplinary team from the TIA and other research providers across Australia.

The incumbent's role will be to engage with industry to identify the problems to be solved, undertake applied science underpinned by tree physiological principles, and work with industry towards adoption. Specifically, the incumbent will undertake research in partnership with growers and the broader sector to demonstrate the benefits of research findings expertly and independently. This position will also be key to addressing our strategic agenda to sustainably increase productivity in Tasmania's horticulture sector.

This research position will be located at UTAS' Newnham campus in Launceston and sits within the [Horticulture Centre](#) within TIA, as part of a state-wide team. The Centre's work is visible internationally through great work communicated at conferences, nationally through domestic collaborations and presence at national conferences and workshops, and locally, through our long-standing engagement and relationships with industry.

The Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture is part of the University's [College of Sciences and Engineering](#) and will be headquartered at Launceston's Newnham campus from July 1<sup>st</sup> 2024. At the Newnham campus, UTAS is investing \$26 million-dollars in a new glasshouse, a multi-purpose research facility and a large space for in-ground trials including retractable roof growing areas and polytunnels. The development will be constructed in two stages commencing in early 2024. The 1100m<sup>2</sup> glasshouse will have an advanced level of biosecurity and be equipped with the latest technology to control carbon dioxide, humidity, and a wide temperature range. The 1300m<sup>2</sup> multi-purpose research facility brings a variety of functions under one roof, including seed cleaning, drying and storage, plant and soil grinding and drying, and large food grade cool rooms.

The University of Tasmania is building a vision of a place-based University with a mission to enhance the intellectual, economic, social and culture future of Tasmania, and from Tasmania, contribute to the world in areas of distinctive advantage. The University recognises that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ as well as creating a people-centred University that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused. The Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture is part of the University's [College of Sciences and Engineering](#).

**We are an inclusive workplace committed to 'working from the strength that diversity brings' reflected in our Statement of Values. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people and are committed to inclusive principles. We celebrate the range of diverse assets that gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, age and life course bring. Applications are encouraged from all sectors of the community. Tell us how we can make this job work for you.**



### What You'll Do

- Undertake high-quality research of national and increasingly of international standing, publish research findings and contribute to the successful supervision of research higher degree students, in order to meet and regularly exceed the University's research performance expectations for Level A/B.
- Develop and implement TIA's PIPS 4 Profit research programs that will lead to a steep change in sustainability, productivity and profitability.
- Work closely with colleagues both across TIA and UTAS in the development of research projects in tree crop physiology and aligned fields including tree nutrition, soil science, agriculture technology and innovation, and data analytics.
- Lead co-design and extension activities with industry that lead to the adoption of research outcomes, that have impact and make a difference.
- Contribute to the development and maintenance of productive and effective links both inside the University, and externally (locally and nationally) within the discipline, relevant interdisciplinary domains, profession, industry and/or wider community.
- Make an effective and sustained contribution to the University in achieving its strategic objectives and fulfilling its operational responsibilities.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

### What We're Looking For (success criteria)

- A PhD or equivalent experience in a relevant field.
- A good record of, and continuing commitment to, research that has achieved national recognition and impacted tree crop horticulture, demonstrated by a record of quality publications, presentations at workshops/conferences and success in securing external competitive and other funding.
- Evidence of demonstrated experience in co-design with industry and extension that leads to adoption of relevant research findings that have made a difference to industry.
- Evidence of contributing to building and maintaining effective and productive links locally and nationally with growers, the horticultural industry and the wider community.
- A good record of building and fostering collaborations with other researchers and research teams.
- Knowledge of agriculture technology and digital innovation relevant to Tree crop horticulture would be highly regarded.
- Experience in undergraduate teaching, including design and delivery using blended learning technologies is desirable.

### Other position requirements

- Occasional intrastate/ interstate travel.
- Regular travel to the TIA's Hobart campus and to external locations is required to deliver research outcomes
- Laboratory and farm activities and handling hazardous substances (ChemCert accreditation)
- Undertaking manual handling and lifting >10kg



- Willingness to undertake a medical assessment based on meeting the inherent position requirements

### University of Tasmania

The University of Tasmania is an institution with an enduring commitment to our state and community, and a strong global outlook. We are committed to enhancing the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of Tasmania. Our [Strategic Direction](#) strongly reflects the University community's voice that our University must be place based but globally connected as well as regionally networked and designed to deliver quality access to higher education for the whole State.

We believe that from our unique position here in Tasmania we can impact the world through the contributions of our staff, students and graduates. We recognise that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ, as well as creating a university that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

Check out more here:

<https://www.utas.edu.au/jobs>

<https://www.utas.edu.au/careers/our-people-values-and-behaviours>

*The intention of this position description is to highlight the most important aspects, rather than to limit the scope or accountabilities of this role. Duties above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position.*

