



<b>Position</b>	Senior Field Officer/Researcher/Senior Researcher/Agronomist (Cereals)		
<b>Reports to</b>	Theme Leader, Maximising Productivity and Value or Senior Researcher Cereals (depending on experience)		
<b>Company</b>	Foundation for Arable Research	<b>Date:</b>	September 2022
<b>Head office:</b>	Innovation Park, 185 Kirk Road, Templeton, Christchurch		
<b>Our vision:</b> A vibrant and profitable arable sector producing healthy, value added food, feed and seed for New Zealanders and the World			
<b>FAR's Core Values</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Excellence</li> <li>❖ Independence</li> <li>❖ Responsiveness</li> <li>❖ Integrity</li> <li>❖ Empathy</li> </ul>			

<b>Position purpose</b>
<p>The position will be responsible for the delivery of cereals agronomy, research and/or extension. It will involve working with cropping farmers, researchers, local and national government and industry across the sector. Depending on experience, the position will also involve contributing to the priorities for cereals in consultation with the FAR cereal programme manager, FAR research team and the cereals industry.</p> <p>The position will be permanent and full-time (1.0 – 0.8 FTE, by negotiation), although FAR operates in blocks of 6 years in relation to the referendum of growers and ongoing employment is reliant on the successful outcome of the 2023 grower levy referendum. The location is to be negotiated at either the FAR Office at Templeton or elsewhere in the South Island's cereal growing regions.</p>

Roles and responsibilities	
<b>Research &amp; Development</b>	<p>Senior Field Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct and/or manage (depending on experience) high-quality agronomy and/or research projects focused on maximizing the production efficiency, environmental outcomes and future resilience for cereals.</li> <li>• Develop (depending on experience) and/or implement research and trial protocols that ensure projects will meet their objectives.</li> <li>• Collect and/or analyse (depending on experience) agronomy data, research results and prepare reports.</li> <li>• Any other duties which may be reasonably required by staff from time to time during the course of FAR's business</li> </ul> <p>Researcher or Senior Researcher <i>(As above for Field Officer, with the following additions)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain awareness of national and international trends and advances associated with cereal production systems.</li> <li>• Collaboratively plan and prioritise FAR cereal agronomy and/or research projects of importance to New Zealand growers and in line with the FAR Strategic Plan.</li> <li>• Identify projects which should attract grant funds, prepare grant applications and manage grant-funded projects in conjunction with FAR Project Leaders.</li> <li>• Represent FAR or the cropping industry on collaborative, multi-organisational research and extension projects.</li> <li>• Design high-quality agronomy and/or research projects focused on maximizing the production efficiency, environmental outcomes and future resilience for cereals.</li> </ul>
<b>Extension</b>	<p>Senior Field Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to field days, workshops and conferences for arable growers, science groups and other industry organisations.</li> </ul> <p>Researcher or Senior Researcher <i>(As above for Senior Field Officer, with the following additions)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organise and manage field days, workshops and conferences for arable growers, science groups and other industry organisations.</li> <li>• Prepare extension information on projects for farmers in collaboration with the FAR Communications Manager, other research providers and industry representatives. These will include Arable Updates, media releases, booklets, internet etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no direct line management responsibility with this position.</li> </ul>
<b>Health and Safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance with FAR health and safety policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
<b>Training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop ongoing capabilities through training and professional development.</li> </ul>

**Relevant skills/qualifications**

A relevant tertiary qualification (Bachelors/Masters/PhD in Plant Science, Agriculture) and/or experience (preferably >3 years) in agronomy, research, development and/or extension on cereals.

Relevant skills include:

- Other plant-based research and/or agronomy experience.
- An ability to relate well to and understand the requirements of farmers.
- Excellent understanding of field experimental protocols, design and/or statistical analysis etc.
- Excellent written and verbal communication including presentation skills.
- An understanding of New Zealand primary industries and in particular the arable industry.
- Good knowledge of cereal production as it relates to New Zealand arable farm systems.
- Well developed project management skills would be highly desirable.

Interpersonal skills include:

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Organised and good at working to deadlines.
- A collegial and inclusive approach to work activities and being a member of a team.
- Self-driven and with the ability to work independently.
- Able to work under pressure and to maintain high standards of workmanship.
- Appropriate computer competencies (e.g. MS Word, excel, statistical packages).
- Full driver's license.