

JOB OVERVIEW

Turf Production Farm Manager



The Turf Farm, Pinnaroo, South Australia

We are looking for a full-time hands-on Farm Production Operations Manager to manage our close-knit team at Pinnaroo in the SA Mallee. You will become a key part of our leading turf enterprise, where we pride ourselves on creating an opportunity for everyone to grow. We are wanting a team member who is willing to commit for the long term and become a part of the community. We are looking for someone to take on ownership of the role and grow our business to the next level.

Our lawn is delivered daily across South Australia to garden centres, homeowners, landscapers, and commercial projects. We have over 60ha of lawn, watered by centre pivots, growing multiple varieties using the latest in on-farm management technologies.

This role is critical to the success of the business. You will be actively involved in all aspects of managing the turf production from planting to harvesting. In this position you will manage a team of 2-6 employees to ensure mowing, watering, harvesting, and dispatch are up to standard. No two days will be the same. The role comes with a vehicle for work use. You will be working autonomously and accountable to our executive team for hitting targets, sticking to budget, and reporting back.

You will be working daily along with the business owner and have access to industry leaders, while using the most modern production methods and equipment. As part of this family business, you will be encouraged to strive for excellence, and to dare to be different as we grow lawns for the future.

We are a welcoming and friendly place to work, where we see everyone here as part of our extended family. To us, it is important to be connected to our local community, as a part of our on-farm team, and with the industry more generally. We work hard to create this connection and encourage you to do the same.

In 2023 we celebrated our 20th anniversary in the turf industry. We have built a successful business on accountability and connection. Accountability and honesty are important to us at The Turf Farm. We will ask you to strive to maintain our reputation. We ask for you to be accountable for your actions, and to work with us to continue to grow, inspire and innovate.

The Turf Farm is part of the Lawn Solutions Australia Group, a network of 43 locally owned, and family operated businesses, who collectively research and market lawn varieties across Australia. Together, this group brings the best turf varieties onto the market and cooperates in the largest turf research facilities in the Southern Hemisphere.

As a part of this role, you will be required to undertake further training to maintain up-to-date turf industry research, development, production, and farm business safety. You will attend industry events, field days and conferences.

We encourage you to ask about our business to see if it is a fit for you and to contact us with any questions you may have.

If you do not possess these skills but would like to work towards this position in our company, please let us know your interest as we are willing to train the right team member through the ranks.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Duties, responsibilities, and tasks

- Ensure the smooth running of day-to-day operations
- Oversee the daily dispatch associated with fresh product logistics.
- Monitor, maintain and operate centre pivot irrigation systems
- Main operator of the Robomax Turf Harvester and Kesmac Harvesters.
- Oversee the operation of turf equipment.
- Identification and management of turf weeds as a part of an ongoing monitoring program.
- Monitoring of plant health, including disease and pests.
- Keep accurate production, business, and dispatch records.
- Supervise and take responsibilities for the day-to-day operations and management of a team.
- Deliver a plant nutrition program in cooperation with the business owner and contractors.
- Assist in machinery maintenance, supplies, and services for the turf enterprise.
- Undertake general property maintenance and development including care of grounds.
- Actively participate in turf industry compliance activities
- Adhere to the Australia Turf Accreditation Program - AusGAP and become the Accredited AusGAP Certified Representative (ACR) for the business.
- Administration duties relating to the turf production.
- Provide seasonal support to the dryland cropping enterprise as required.
- Any other general duties as required.

Essential skills and qualifications

- 5 years previous experience in small team management
- A valid Australian driver's license
- A valid forklift license.
- A valid Chemcert Licence
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Be confident to use app technology on iPad's and iPhone's.
- Non-smoker

Desirable skills and qualifications

- 5 years previous experience in plant and soil agronomics.
- A certificate (or higher and or currently undertaking) in Production Horticulture or Certificate III in Sports Turf Management or Agriculture.
- MR or HC license highly regarded.
- Previous experience in operating an automatic turf harvester is highly desirable or demonstrated experience with similar machinery (however this is not essential).

Type of employment

You will be expected to do the hours to complete the role for the season.

Full-time with a salary package depending on experience, work vehicle & work phone provided from \$75k to 95k. Housing available if required.

More information on this role

For more information on this role, please contact Business Manager Chloe Hardie on 0438 396 407.