



POSITION TITLE	AMS Trainee Extension Officer
REPORTS TO	Industry Development Manager
OPERATIONAL ENGAGEMENT	Industry Development Officer
EMPLOYMENT STATUS	TBC commencing in Feb 2025
LOCATION	Bundaberg - travel required in SE Queensland
APPROVED BY	Clare Hamilton-Bate
APPROVED DATE	01/11/2024
REVIEW DATE	

About Us

The Australian Macadamia Society (AMS) is the peak industry body representing macadamia growers, handlers & processors and supply chain businesses. The Australian macadamia industry extends from the Mid North Coast of NSW to the Atherton Tablelands in far north Queensland, with planted orchards covering over 41,000ha and production volumes forecast to grow significantly as newly planted trees reach maturity. There are more than 700 growers, producing around 50,000 tonnes of nut in shell (NIS) per year, with 70% of the crop exported to more than 40 countries.

Macadamias are now the fourth largest Australian horticultural export, and Queensland's #1 horticultural export crop. The AMS provides services to represent, engage and advocate for the industry; and to support industry growth and development through market development (Australian Macadamias Marketing Program), industry development and communication.

Bundaberg, located on the Queensland Capricorn Coast, gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, is now Australia's macadamia capital. Bundaberg produces 53% of the national crop and with only 61% of orchards currently bearing is set for massive growth over the next five to ten years. With this rapid growth comes many learning opportunities within the region and the ability to become involved in an exciting and innovative industry.

Purpose of the Position

The AMS Trainee Extension Officer will work with and support the AMS's Industry Development team in the delivery of the levy funded project 'MC20000 - Macadamia Industry Innovation & Adoption'.

The three key areas of project activity being:

- Industry development activity
- R&D coordination and understanding
- Resource curation and dissemination

In addition to the core levy funded project activity, the trainee extension officer will be actively involved in other industry development projects and activity, including but not limited to, tree mapping & data collection and analysis.

The Australian Tree crop Map, developed by the University of New England, is a valuable resource for data collection and resource planning for the AMS. The AMS extension trainee officer will be involved in the data collection of block-specific orchard information in order to build on the map. This will provide a fantastic opportunity to visit different farming enterprises and see different orchard operations whilst meeting growers and key stakeholders within the industry.

The AMS is one of 37 peak industry bodies (PIBs) in the Australian horticulture sector and one of 7 nut industry organisations that comprise the Australian Nut Industry Council (ANIC). The AMS works closely and collaboratively with many other commodity and regional organisations in delivering services to the macadamia industry. The trainee extension officer will have the opportunity to learn about the wider horticultural industry framework and the role of PIBs during their time with the AMS.

Reporting

The AMS trainee extension officer will report to the AMS Industry Development Manager. The role also has a direct operational relationship and reporting line to the AMS Industry Development Officer and will work closely with other AMS team members to deliver the operational project objectives of the role.

Key Responsibilities	
Area of Responsibility	Example
Maintain awareness and understanding of existing and emerging regional industry issues and priorities	Understanding of regional issues impacting macadamia production and supply chain
Industry data collection and management	Data related to orchard plantings, yield, production and the associated resource requirements
Technical resource development, review and management	AMS has an extensive resource library in need of full review and update, including fact sheets, reference guides etc
Proactive engagement with industry stakeholders	Growers, handlers, processors, researchers, and other industry support stakeholders
Facilitation of regional activities	Assist with organisation and running of field days, macgroups and other industry events.

Selection Criteria	
1.	Knowledge and understanding of the agriculture and horticulture sector
2.	A technical agronomic understanding, to facilitate mapping and R&D outputs
3.	Innovative mindset, proactively identifying and sharing opportunities for improvement
4.	Good interpersonal and communication skills, with an innate ability to listen and act
5.	Strong organisational skills with a proven ability to prioritise tasks and work across multiple areas
6.	High level of self-motivation, self-discipline, initiative and demonstrated ability to undertake tasks and deliver outcomes with minimal supervision.
7.	Flexibility and the desire to take on new challenges and achieve results