

Field Technician - Seasonal

DEPARTMENT	Verified Lab Services – Post Harvest
LOCATION	Te Puke, Kerikeri, Coromandel, Katikati, Opotiki, Gisborne
REPORTS TO	Operations Managers, Field Supervisors

ABOUT THE ROLE

As a Field Technician, you will support the delivery of field sampling, monitoring, sample collection and transportation activities safely, accurately and efficiently in accordance with VLS procedures, client requirements and industry standards.

Working across kiwifruit and avocado production regions, you will support maturity, residue and nutrient sampling, pest monitoring and other field programmes.

The role requires attention to detail, sound judgement and the ability to work independently or as part of a team. Responsibilities vary according to programme requirements, employment arrangements and demonstrated competency.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Field Sampling, Monitoring and Operations

- Undertake allocated sampling, monitoring, sample collection and transportation activities in accordance with approved procedures.
- Maintain sample quality, identification and traceability throughout collection, handling and delivery.
- Complete allocated activities accurately and within required timeframes.
- Identify and report sampling deviations, transportation issues or operational concerns.
- Assist with training and supporting other Field Technicians where authorised.

Data & Quality

- Review work orders, site maps and sampling requirements before commencing work.
- Accurately record and submit sampling information using approved applications.
- Follow quality procedures and promptly report errors or non-conformances.
- Participate in audits and competency assessments as required.

Health & Safety

- Follow company safety procedures, including dynamic risk assessments, PPE and safe driving practices.
- Identify and report hazards, incidents, near misses and unsafe conditions.
- Use designated lone worker and emergency communication systems.
- Stop work and seek guidance where risks cannot be adequately controlled.
- Participate in required safety training and briefings.

Communication & Equipment

- Communicate work progress, availability and operational concerns with supervisors and support teams.
- Use and maintain company vehicles, equipment and technology in accordance with VLS policies.
- Promptly report equipment faults, damage or consumable shortages.
- Maintain professional relationships with growers, colleagues and stakeholders.
- Participate in team meetings, training and improvement activities.

KEY MEASURABLES

- Sampling and monitoring activities meet approved methods, quality standards and required timeframes.
- Samples and associated records are accurate, complete and traceable.
- Deviations, errors and operational concerns are identified, reported and rectified promptly.
- Health and safety procedures are consistently followed, with incidents and hazards reported.
- Company vehicles, equipment and technology are maintained and used responsibly.
- Required training and competency are maintained.
- Clear communication, professionalism and positive teamwork are consistently demonstrated.

SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE & PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

Technical & Industry Experience

- Full, clean driver's license for operating company vehicles.
- Confident using smartphones, digital systems and mobile applications.
- Ability to follow sampling procedures, work orders and orchard maps.
- Previous horticulture or sampling experience is advantageous but not essential.
- Willingness to complete required training and maintain competency.

Planning & Organisation

- Strong time management and organisational skills.
- Ability to work independently and manage allocated workloads.
- Reliable, punctual and able to meet operational deadlines.

Communication & Teamwork

- Clear communicator who seeks guidance when required.
- Works effectively independently and alongside others.
- Maintains positive relationships with colleagues, growers and stakeholders.

Adaptability & Initiative

- Flexible and responsive to changing seasonal demands.
- Comfortable working outdoors across varied terrain and weather conditions.
- Physically capable of walking extended distances and safely carrying samples weighing up to 16 kg.
- Willingness to learn, accept feedback and contribute to improvements.

Professional Conduct

- Trustworthy, dependable and safety conscious.
- Demonstrates accuracy, accountability and sound judgement.
- Maintains confidentiality and represents VLS professionally.

This Position Description provides a general guide to the role and may be reviewed and updated from time to time to reflect changing business, technological, legislative or regulatory requirements. You are expected to undertake any reasonable and lawful duties, instructions or delegated tasks relevant to your role as directed by your manager or an authorised person.

SIGNED IN AGREEMENT

By signing this document, I have read and agree to the requirements of the role as outlined in the position description above.

_____ Date:

Signed in agreement by the employee

_____ Date:

Signed on behalf of VLS