

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHERIES

Overview

With big political and environmental changes to contend with, this important sector needs bright graduates. Placements and internships are often unadvertised (particularly by smaller companies), and so be prepared to email places that you'd like to gain experience speculatively to create opportunities. Experience is vital, particularly for roles which involve technical skills or giving consultancy and advice. There are a limited range of named 'graduate schemes' (examples include the NFU Agricultural Policy graduate scheme and those run by food companies such as the ABP Food Group graduate scheme), however there are many more roles which incorporate training and development and will state that a degree is highly advantageous.

Key Resources

[Prospects.ac.uk job profiles for Environment and Agriculture](https://prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles-for-environment-and-agriculture) – detailed advice on 40 different jobs within this sector, including agricultural consultant, arboriculturalist, farm manager, fisheries officer, forest/woodland manager, plant breeder/geneticist and soil scientist.

[British Institute of Agricultural Consultants \(biac.co.uk\)](https://biac.co.uk), [Association of Independent Crop Consultants \(aicc.org.uk\)](https://aicc.org.uk), [Charteredforesters.org](https://charteredforesters.org), [Institute of Fisheries Management \(ifm.org.uk\)](https://ifm.org.uk) – all of these professional associations offer useful pages of news and insight into their sector, plus a directory or register of companies or individuals who you could contact speculatively to seek work experience, placement or job opportunities.

[Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs \(gov.uk\)](https://gov.uk/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs) (DEFRA) – information on the UK government department, including a list of the 33 other government agencies and public bodies that link with this area (such as the Forestry Commission, Environment Agency and the Centre for Environment Fishers and Aquaculture Science). There is a 'Working for...' page for each body (including DEFRA itself) with advice on careers at each agency. Jobs are generally advertised on the [Civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk](https://civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk) board, apart from the few agencies which are independent of government, which advertise jobs on their own websites.

[Nature.com/naturecareers](https://nature.com/naturecareers), jobs.newscientist.com and [Jobs.ac.uk](https://jobs.ac.uk) – jobs boards which tend to have more research and academia-related roles

[Farmers Weekly \(fwi.co.uk/careers\)](https://fwi.co.uk/careers) – careers advice, case studies, tips and job profiles

[Jobs.fwi.co.uk](https://jobs.fwi.co.uk) – jobs and vacancies for the sector

[Jobs.nfonline.com/jobresults](https://jobs.nfonline.com/jobresults) – jobs site from the National Farmers Union

careers.jobsinagriculture.com – job vacancy board from Farmers Guardian, with useful articles including a category on graduate schemes and apprenticeships

[Institute of Agricultural Management \(iagrm.org.uk\)](https://iagrm.org.uk) – advertises jobs and placements

[Farminguk.com/farming-jobs](https://farminguk.com/farming-jobs) – basic but useful farming jobs board – good place to find temporary or casual farm work to build experience

Worldfishing.net/jobs-board – jobs board for fisheries work

Careers.rfs.org.uk – from the Royal Forestry Society, including details of the (small) 'Forestry Roots' scheme which aims to match education leavers (including final year students) with jobs in the industry.

Arbjobs.com – arboriculture jobs board

Horticulture.org.uk/careers– excellent Grow Careers guide and extensive list of bursaries and grants

[The Arboricultural Association \(trees.org.uk/careers/jobs\)](http://The Arboricultural Association (trees.org.uk/careers/jobs)) – excellent jobs page for arb jobs, good careers guide and directory of arboricultural firms and professionals.

