



**Curtin University**

### **Internship offer – Masters level**

March - August 2018

### **Investigating the use of digital agriculture technologies in the Western Australian wheatbelt**

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This project will generate insights about the uses of digital technologies in the Western Australian grain industry. This includes precision agriculture tools such as crop yield mapping and variable rate technology, as well as emerging strategies such as on-farm grain storage management. Linkages with on-farm experimentation will also be explored.

Interviews with broadacre farmers will be conducted across the wheatbelt to determine:

- capabilities: data acquisition equipment and machinery
- implementations: tools and designs, data flows
- analytics: farm resources vs. externalisation, levels of interpretation and integration
- motivations: objectives, value propositions, business models
- farming system constraints: practical, social, institutional

Results will contribute to inform research directions for the Centre for Digital Agriculture. This multi-disciplinary partnership based at Curtin University was recently formed to increase the adoption of digital agriculture technologies.

Training in interview and survey methodology will be provided. Results will lead to the preparation of a manuscript for publication in international academic journals. The successful candidate(s) will be selected based on (selection criteria):

- academic merit
- relevant experience and/or training (agronomy, socio-economic sciences)
- ability to engage farmers and conduct interviews
- ability to work autonomously including during extensive trips in the wheatbelt

**Scholarships up to AU\$ 3,000 are available to assist with travel costs (conditional to completion).**

Please email [myrtille.lacoste@curtin.edu.au](mailto:myrtille.lacoste@curtin.edu.au) to lodge expressions of interest, with (PDF in English):

- CV, including contact details and the emails of two referees
- 1-page motivation letter addressing the selection criteria
- evidence of academic merit
- evidence of English proficiency
- copy of driving licence

**The newly established Centre for Digital Agriculture is one of Curtin University's leading initiatives for agricultural research based in Perth, Western Australia. Curtin is a global university ranked in the top 1% of universities internationally, nearing 60 000 students and AU\$1 billion revenue with a 5/5-star QR rating. 2016 Nature Index – "Curtin: fastest moving & most collaborative of Australian universities".**

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