

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title	Industry Liaison - Grains Biosecurity
Reports to	National Manager, Preparedness and RD&E
Date Prepared	December 2024

1. About PHA

Plant Health Australia is the trusted coordinator of the Australian plant biosecurity system. We bring expertise, knowledge and stakeholders together to generate solutions that improve biosecurity outcomes to ensure that the system is future-oriented and solutions-focused. PHA also aspires to be an employer of choice with a strong employee value proposition.

2. About the Program

The Biosecurity Plan for the Grains Industry Version 4.0 (the Plan) has been developed to help strengthen biosecurity protections and further safeguard the \$32 billion Australian grains industry, by delivering a range of targeted activities and investments.

As part of its development, a Grains Biosecurity Reference Group (GBRG) involving representatives from Grain Producers Australia (GPA), Grain Growers Ltd (GGL), Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC), PHA, Federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), and state and territory agricultural agencies developed an implementation plan that sets out the biosecurity strategies and activities to be implemented over the life of the plan to strengthen industry biosecurity efforts.

The Industry Liaison - Grains Biosecurity, together with a Grains Biosecurity Advisory Committee (GBAC), ensures the successful implementation and coordination of the activities identified in the plan.

3. About the Position

With general direction from the National Manager, Preparedness and Research, Development, and Extension (RD&E), the role is responsible for building and maintaining national relationships with GBAC members through the development and implementation of the plan of grain biosecurity activities and projects.

The Industry Liaison - Grains Biosecurity plans and organises regular meetings with the GBAC as it works to understand the breadth of activities and stakeholders in the grains biosecurity system and their future needs and coordinate the implementation and delivery of surveillance, preparedness, response and adaptation activities identified in the Plan and report on progress and opportunities for improvement.

The role works collaboratively with the GRDC in the design and development of activities and projects to increase awareness of biosecurity risks and mitigation activities throughout the production and supply chain. The role also provides support, where required, for the grains industry in the event of exotic pest incursions affecting grains.

This full-time position is based in the PHA Office in Canberra, funded by the GRDC until 30 June 2027 with potential for extension. There is occasional interstate travel required for this position.

4. Working and Reporting Relationships

The position reports to the National Manager, Preparedness and RD&E and is an important member of the Preparedness Team and the broader Resilience and Innovation Group. The position maintains good working relationships with other areas in PHA, and closely collaborates with GRDC, GBAC and other key stakeholders in the plant biosecurity area.

5. Key Responsibilities

Key responsibilities include:

1. Build and maintain relationships with key grains industry stakeholders nationally including program advisory committee, project partners and the GRDC to facilitate mutual benefits, information leverage, and delivery of biosecurity outcomes.
 - Work cooperatively with members of the program advisory committee, to accomplish Program objectives that build and maintain mutually- beneficial partnerships.
 - Develop strong working relationships with the GRDC and project partners to undertake joint delivery of new and existing targeted biosecurity activities and events.
2. Design, develop, implement, coordinate, monitor, and report on complex projects listed in the Schedule, that delivers value to the grains biosecurity system now and into the future.
 - Design, develop, implement, coordinate and report on activities and projects
 - Coordinate allocated projects and activities within time, cost and quality parameters
 - Monitor, measure and report on the performance of the specified grains biosecurity projects and activities.
 - Actively engage in the monitoring and evaluation of PHA projects and programs
3. Coordinate the regular review of the Biosecurity Plan for the Grains Industry including updating High Priority and watch list pests, preparedness status and implementation plan.
4. Develop mechanisms and processes to engage key grains industry stakeholders to improve the awareness and understanding of biosecurity activities, stakeholders and future needs across the continuum.
5. Provide ongoing support of the program advisory committee through the preparation of meeting papers, correspondence, minutes, logistics and other materials as required.
6. Work with the PHA and GRDC to identify communication opportunities.
7. Contribute to the Preparedness Team and PHA through representation and participation in various meetings and events.
8. Other duties as required by the National Manager, Preparedness and RD&E from time to time.

6. Decision Making Authority

Decisions expected	Recommendations expected
This position holds no delegations	Within the scope of the position and Preparedness Team, when appropriate the position will make recommendations on improvements in process and content and contribute to the continual improvement of team performance.

7. Key Capabilities, Experience and Qualifications

Key capabilities necessary for the role, including behavioural competencies, relevant experience and qualifications.

Experience/Knowledge/Attributes	Essential/Desirable
Demonstrated sound knowledge of and experience in broadacre production, biosecurity or crop protection RD&E in Australia.	Essential
Demonstrated understanding of Australia's biosecurity system, crop protection	Essential

environment, biosecurity issues and grower representative and lobbying organisations.	
Strong interpersonal, stakeholder, relationship management skills.	Essential
Demonstrated experience in project design, negotiation, facilitation and management in a relevant agricultural industry.	Essential
Demonstrated ability to work autonomously and as a member of a team, within agreed timeframes and deadlines.	Essential
Sound oral and written communication and presentation skills, including the ability to distil complex scientific information into plain English suitable for a non-technical audience.	Essential
Ability to consistently adhere to and demonstrate PHA's Values in Action through day-to-day activities and interactions.	Essential
Qualifications	
Graduate qualification in Biological Science, Agricultural Science or equivalent.	Essential
Post-graduate qualification in science or agriculture discipline.	Desirable
Project management qualification and/or experience.	Desirable

Work rights: Candidates must have ongoing work rights in Australia, independent of any employment with PHA. PHA does not generally act as a sponsor for overseas employees. Where PHA is offering sponsored employment, this will be clearly specified in the job advertisement.