Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

These three areas of industry focus on crop production and the production of animal products; forestry and logging and fishing and aquaculture. This sector accounts for 1% of the UK workforce and 6% of businesses in the UK, although has slightly shrunk over the last five years.

The sector is experiencing considerable pressures including an ageing workforce, a growing global population and concerns around food security. Also climate change is introducing instability into production planning, environmental regulations around the control of water and emissions and other issues include animal health and welfare regulations and ethical consumerism.

This means there is a demand for more scientific and leadership roles in the sector. So although qualifications needed to succeed in this sector vary considerably with some roles not requiring a degree at all there is likely to be a growth in roles requiring postgraduate research or taught postgraduate qualifications.

Key Resources

Lantra
Great information on different land based and environmental industry roles plus industry overviews, useful links and a database of jobs

NFU
‘The voice of British Farming’ with a great jobs database

Farmers Weekly
The magazine for the industry with sector news and a job search engine

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs
The relevant government website and the place to go for policy information

The Association for Independent Crop Consultants
Keep up to date with relevant news and search their members’ database for contacts

The British Association of Agricultural Consultants
News, events, great links and a membership directory you can search for contacts

The Royal Forestry Society careers portal
A website with great information and videos on different forestry careers and advice on further qualifications relevant to your level of study
The Forestry Commission
A site representing the Forestry commissions in England and Scotland, Forestry in Wales and the Forestry research agency. This site provides an overview of current topics, research and publications in forestry and links to jobs and volunteering opportunities

The Institute of Chartered Foresters
Education and careers information, a Directory of Consultants and access to the Journal of Forestry plus advice on accredited courses

Arbjobs
Lists of arboricultural jobs

Institute of Fisheries Management
Review the Resister of Fisheries Professionals and relevant events, training and news

Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
Is the Government department for this area providing a useful overview of the important issues and policies

Marine Conservation Society
Charity championing marine protection which includes all the relevant news and many volunteering opportunities

The National Trust
Details the National Trusts work and current projects including full details of their volunteering and paid vacancies which cover countryside management and conservation roles

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)
Great for searching conservation volunteering opportunities, near you

New Scientist
All the latest news and a comprehensive jobs database, often aimed at more experienced hires, but think laterally and it’s a gold mine of information

Nature Jobs
Bags of careers articles, up to date news and reviews and a jobs database

You may also be interested in...
- Biology and Biotechnology
- The Environment
- Food Technology and Marketing

Access this page and more industries at reading.ac.uk/careers/resources