

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES INDUSTRY SECTOR

10 TIPS FOR CHOOSING THE RIGHT CAREER FOR YOU

*How does a person know what career to work toward?
There is no perfect answer, but the following 10 tips will
get you off to a good start.*

- 1 Get to know yourself** – Complete more than one self-assessment test.
- 2 Identify your strengths and weaknesses** – What do you do well and what do you not do well?
- 3 Develop an inventory of careers** – Write down some careers that might interest you.
- 4 Research different careers** – Talk to others and use the Internet.
- 5 Write the pros and cons** – List positives and negatives about the careers that interest you.
- 6 Network** – Discuss your ideas with others.
- 7 Talk with people who work in your area of interest** – Family and friends are great resources.
- 8 Find a mentor** – Find someone with whom you can discuss your career selection.
- 9 Experiment** – Take a related class or part-time job.
- 10 Don't give up** – "If there is a will, there is a way."



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Because agriculture is California's most important economic industry, California is often called the breadbasket of the world. If you love nature, animals, or growing things, the Agriculture and Natural Resources Sector may hold a great career for you.

A strong demand exists for well-trained, environmentally-sensitive individuals to provide the state, nation, and world with food, fiber, and a healthy environment. The Agriculture and Natural Resources Industry Sector provides a foundation for agriculture students in California. This sector emphasizes real-world, occupationally-relevant experiences. Classroom and laboratory instruction, supervised agricultural experience, projects, leadership, and interpersonal skill development activities prepare students for advanced training, higher education, and entry to a career.

Web sites
for further information:

www.californiacareers.info

www.whodouwant2be.com

www.californiacolleges.edu

www.edd.ca.gov/Jobs_and_Training/

Career Pathways

Agricultural Business Pathway

Agricultural business students will find many job opportunities in the managerial and financial ranks. Agriculture in the United States is big business that is becoming international in scope. If you are interested in traveling to other countries, agricultural business might be the perfect career for you.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Landscape Manager
- Ag Marketing
- Farm Realty
- Appraiser
- Timber Manager
- Fisheries Manager
- Accounting
- Irrigation Manager
- Product Broker/Buyer
- Agricultural Lending Officer
- Economist
- Sales
- Banking
- Floral Shop Owner
- Aquaculture
- Farm Manager

Agricultural Mechanics Pathway

Today's agricultural engineering and power equipment industry uses complex technology that combines fabrication, hydraulic power, electronic controls, and powerful engines. Getting your hands dirty may be necessary, but your knowledge will play a larger role in finding a successful career in agricultural mechanics. Technicians are needed to diagnose, test, and repair equipment. Mechanical skills needed for construction, operation, maintenance, and repair of agricultural equipment involving wood, metal, concrete, electrical, plumbing, and welding are all part of an agricultural mechanics career.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Equipment Fabricator
- Irrigation Engineer
- Equipment Operator
- Welding/Metal Fabrication
- Power System Mechanic
- Irrigation System Designer
- Precision Farming Technician
- Farm Facility Construction
- Land Leveling
- Troubleshooting

Agriscience Pathway

Agriscience is the basis of past and future developments in agriculture. It provides a broad understanding of agricultural knowledge, develops awareness of career opportunities in agriculture, while providing occupationally-relevant experiences, cooperative group learning, and leadership skills. Many agricultural scientists work in basic or applied research and development. All agriculture-related careers benefit from knowledge and experience in the Agriscience Pathway.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Enology
- Plant Propagation
- Plant/Animal Genetics
- Agriculture Pest Management
- Hydraulic Engineer
- Food Processing
- Production Management
- Biotechnology
- Ag Chemicals

Animal Science Pathway

Animal production for food, fiber, recreation, and companionship is represented in the Animal Science Pathway. Knowledge of the diet, genetics, habitat, anatomy, physiology, nutrition, production, behavior, health, and welfare of large, small, and specialty animals, birds, and poultry is part of career preparation in the Animal Science Pathway.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Animal Breeding
- Fish Farming
- Cattle Ranching
- Pack Station
- Meat Inspector
- Zoo and Veterinary Work and Management
- Animal Trainer
- Artificial Insemination
- Horseshoeing
- Poultry Farming
- Animal Nutritionist

Forestry and Natural Resources Pathway

Forestry and natural resources workers need an understanding of the relationships between humans, the environment, and natural resources. Water resources and management; soil conservation; wildlife preservation and management; forest and fire management; and lumber production are all related to the conservation, use, and protection of our natural resources.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Park Ranger
- Firefighter
- Logging
- Hydrologist
- Ecologist
- Grounds Worker
- Environmental Engineer
- Forest Resources Technologist
- Ski Resort Manager
- Surveyor
- Range/Timber Manager
- Campground Manager
- Guide

Ornamental Horticulture Pathway

What is the difference between a weed and a flower? They say it is all in the eye of the beholder! Ornamental horticulture workers are involved in the development, production, and maintenance of nursery, landscaping, and floral industry-related products. Necessary knowledge of related areas include plant identification, plant physiology, soil science, and plant reproduction, as well as landscaping design, installation, and maintenance.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Floriculture
- Tree Trimming
- Plant Curator
- Nursery Production
- Greenhouse Work
- Landscaper or Groundskeeper
- Golf Course and Park Management
- Plant and Turf Propagation
- Retail Nursery Work
- Landscape Design
- Entomologist
- Floral Designer

Plant and Soil Science Pathway

The Plant and Soil Science Pathway involves plant classification, physiology, reproduction, plant breeding, biotechnology, pest management, and pathology. Workers in this area must also learn about soil management, water, pests, and equipment, as well as cultural and harvest practices.

CAREERS/CAREER AREAS:

- Soil Conservation
- Horticulturist
- Irrigation
- Turf Grass Production
- Pest Control Advisor
- Ag Field Representative
- Waste Water Specialist
- Plant Biologist
- Entomology
- Soil Nutrition
- Viticulture
- Botanist
- Orchardist
- Crop Farmer