



The Archibull Prize 2017

Teacher Newsletter 7

17th July 2017

Good afternoon Creative Minds

Firstly, all schools should have YFC visits locked in. If not stalk your YFC until this happens. If it hasn't happened by Friday this week please contact me.

Speaking of YFC this newsletter looks at the mandatory [blog topic](#) **Careers in agriculture**. The visit of your YFC is a great opportunity to workshop careers in your industry with your YFC.

It's a little-known fact that 82% of careers in agriculture are found beyond the farmgate. Anyone who eats, wears clothes and uses energy is connected to farming. A career in the sector is a wonderful opportunity for young people to contribute to the health, wealth and happiness of people in Australia and around the world

Your students will find lots of information about Careers in the Agriculture sector [here](#)

As mentioned above your Young Farming Champions visit will also provide a wonderful opportunity to inspire the students to review the smorgasbord of careers in their allocated farming industry whether that be eggs, pork, dairy, grains, cotton, wool or sheep and cattle

Our [Young Farming Champions](#) (YFC) include farmers, financiers, business owners, agronomists, journalists, government policy advisors, researchers and tertiary education students to name a few. The YFC provide real life examples to young people who may have never considered a career in agriculture. Because they are young they can relate to students and are adept at breaking down stereotypes of farming and agricultural careers.

You can read about many of our Young Farming Champions career journey [here](#)

The brief for the blog topic on Careers in Agriculture is three-fold

Firstly, the students will blog about their Young Farming Champion and their career journey.

Secondly, the students will investigate careers from paddock to plate or field to fashion in their allocated industry.

Thirdly the students will identify their strengths, ideals and values; and then identify a profession/s that aligns with these in their allocated food or fibre industry. The students will then look at tertiary education pathways available to them to follow this career pathway and map out what a typical week might look like for them when they are working in their chosen profession

As an example of the beef industry Paddock to Plate career diversity let's look at Tim who is a farm manager

Today, while on the phone to his agronomist, Tim stands in his cattle yards and helps the veterinarian preg-test cows. As they complete the job, stockmen load the animals onto a truck as the driver and stock agent discuss their destination. In a paddock nearby tractor operators use GPS technology to sow wheat and a technology student from the local TAFE uses an aerial drone to survey the land.

These may be what you think of when you consider jobs in agriculture but did you know 82% of agricultural careers are beyond the farm gate?

Consider the rest of Tim's week. He goes to town to meet with his agribusiness banker and his grain merchant and purchases goods from the produce store. He arranges a meeting with a succession planner, and then chats to his daughter who is a marketing executive selling beef into China. Tim's sister is a consulting grasslands ecologist and his brother is a meat scientist with the government.

Laura on the other hand has a job in the city

Like most of her friends, Laura lives in the city, waking up each day in a one-bedroom apartment which she currently shares with her cat and her partner, before heading the 3km up the road to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources main office in Canberra's CBD. Unlike most romantic notions of working in agriculture Laura's day is not spent checking cattle, dams and fence lines. It's very similar to most office workers in cities. An average day is never consistent in the office with time spent drafting letters, preparing briefs, examining policy, managing grant recipients and liaising with external stakeholders.

Laura's career in policy plays a pivotal role for farmers and the community as policy acts as a blueprint for trade negotiations between Australian and other nations. It also sets the standards for environmental stewardship, animal wellbeing and the safety of food from padlock to plate. Good policy means we can effectively regulate and ensure the integrity of Australian agriculture and consumers can be confident their families are getting premium food that is nutritious and affordable.

In many ways Laura states "I enjoy what I do, sometimes I do feel isolated from the practical picture of food and fibre production, but I know what happens in the office is import to keep the clogs turning in all aspects of agriculture. I knew early on I was never going to contribute by standing in a paddock or working with animals, but I never let that stop me for caring passionately about agriculture, or my desire to study agricultural science. I'm lucky that I get to do what I love day in and day out."

Wherever you look agriculture offers a fantastic array of careers. From the paddock through to manufacturing and processing, sales and marketing, research and development and into the family home, agriculture offers a smorgasbord of exciting careers.

There is also a separate competition for students for careers which was one by Samuel Carpenter from Grenfell in 2016. You can find Samuel's winning entry [here](#)

Our graphic artist is on holidays and as soon as he returns I will get him to finalise the brochure for the competition and send it out

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions

Kind regards

Lynne Strong

National Program Director

[Art4Agriculture](#)

ABN 39 055 985 661

M: 0407 740 446

E: lynnestrong@art4agriculture.com.au

W: www.pictureyouinagriculture.com.au

Catch the highlights from The Archibull Prize 2016 Awards Ceremony [here](#)

ART4AGRICULTURE IS A PICTURE YOU IN AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE IN COLLABORATION WITH

