

Research Horticulturalist

Purpose

DPI has a role in horticulture to provide research that improves the sustainability of production systems in New South Wales. Currently, a large part of my work is looking at the amounts of fertilisers that blueberry plants need to grow and produce fruit.



A typical day in your role

It varies, today I am working on a paper that I am writing with a student on the impact of drought on blueberry production and the concentration of antioxidants in fruits. Other days I am collecting and analysing data from experiments that we are running.

Personal attributes

You have to be passionate about your subject and committed to accuracy.

Quote

“I love how diverse my job is. I work with technicians, students, other scientists and also I get to work with industry and growers. It’s a great area to work in.”

Education and training

Bachelor of Science (Biology) at Macquarie University and Masters of Horticulture and Ph.D. at the University of Western Sydney.

For more schools resources go to: <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/school-resources>

Dr Sophie Parks

Plant Systems

For more detail about Sophie's role watch her video

