

# We are the next generation!

SCF have been hosting 3 students for the past week from the WA College of Agriculture—Denmark for their work experience placements. The girls have been learning about how a grower group functions, about our trials and projects, visiting field sites and CBH, reviewing of our website and getting a better understanding of why we have grower groups. The girls were asked to write about where they saw the future of agriculture and what part they may play in it. The article below is their contribution...



With a newfound partnership with the Stirling to Coast Farmers, we, as Year 11 ATAR students from the Western Australian College of Agriculture – Denmark, have participated in a week of work experience with the team at SCF, who have shown us the research that happens behind the scenes.

So where is agriculture going? We are the next generation; what has the future got in store for us? As young adults coming into the agricultural industry, we all plan on establishing a career in agriculture. Whether it be in farming or business, the future of agriculture lies in our hands. We have discovered that you don't have to come from an agricultural background to have a love for the industry. For example, our classmate, Jayne Thompson has not been brought up on her own farm but is one of the most passionate people about agriculture in our class. She aspires to pursue a university degree in animal and pastoral science.

The agricultural industry is growing and changing constantly, especially with the development of technology to aid farmers in menial tasks such as identifying livestock. By the time we are old enough to run our own farms, electronic ID's will be classified as 'normal.' GPS tracking is also a development of tracking livestock movements and adjusting feed so that the animals are healthy. As technology develops, people will have to learn to adjust their methods so that they are in line with newly introduced legislation. Some farmers are reluctant and prefer to stick to their own ways- that's understandable- but there's also a prospect of combining both old and new.

So, to conclude, here's our view; agriculture is changing, it's changing fast, and with new technology being discovered every day, it won't be long before we won't even have to leave the house to feed the cows. This doesn't have to be a bad thing, though. The future will bring what it brings, and it's our job as the next generation to innovate and work with it.

Jayne Thompson, Georgia Grant and Jaclyn Mostert  
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