

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Position Title:</b>	Product Owner – Digital Science Products
<b>Reports To:</b>	Information Systems Manager
<b>Direct Reports:</b>	Nil
<b>Group:</b>	Information Systems
<b>Grade:</b>	KF17
<b>Key Relationships:</b>	Internal: Digital & Data teams, research scientists, commercial, legal/compliance and communications. With specific working relationship being Commercial Manager and Lead Scientist on LCA. External: Farming industry groups, Agri-tech partners, government agencies, funding bodies.
<b>Location:</b>	Lincoln

## WHO WE ARE

The Bioeconomy Science Institute brings together AgResearch, Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research, Plant & Food Research and Scion into a single organisation. We are here to support the growth and resilience of the bioeconomy in New Zealand and beyond.

We are passionate innovators, dedicated to making a difference to the future of New Zealand by delivering world-leading research and through complex problem solving across diverse agricultural areas. We are respected by the scientific community for thought leadership, trusted by industry partners for the value we add to the sector, and admired by farmers and governmental stakeholders for all that we do to keep New Zealand at the forefront of global agricultural excellence.

We go beyond innovation to maintain AgResearch group's role as a leading collaborator and contributor to New Zealand's worldwide agricultural reputation.

Our Vision is to drive economic prosperity by transforming agriculture while incorporating the fundamental concepts of sustainability, environmental responsibility and mātauranga Māori.

## POSITION SCOPE & PURPOSE

Bioeconomy Science Institute is developing digital products to deliver science based services to the agriculture industry to increase the impact of science.

The Product Owner – Digital Science Products plays a strategic and cross-functional role focused on translating science into digital solutions that deliver value to the agriculture industry. The role is responsible for developing, managing, and optimising 'Digital Science Products' offerings to ensure they are an integral part of our end-to-end solution selling. This role will work in close collaboration with the Commercial Manager and Lead Scientists to drive the strategy, design, and execution of our



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offerings that enhance customer satisfaction, increase revenue and increase the impact of science.

## KEY ACCOUNTABILITY AREAS

### PRODUCT STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT

- Define and maintain a clear product vision and roadmap aligned with BSI's research goals and market demand.
- Collaborate with key stakeholders, commercial, science and customers to understand customer needs and opportunities where digital tools can make a measurable impact.

### PRODUCT OWNERSHIP

- Own and manage a prioritised product backlog.
- Define clear actionable user stories and acceptance criteria by translating research outputs, government policy and customer feedback.
- Work with cross-functional agile teams to deliver new features, improvements, and bug fixes on time and within budget.
- Develop pricing and costing strategies for product offerings that maximise revenue and profitability.

### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Working closely with the Commercial Manager and lead Scientists to manage internal stakeholders (scientists, data modellers, communications, legal/funding bodies, IT support and infrastructure).
- Communicate with external stakeholders – government agencies, industry groups and customers to gather requirements and validate solutions.
- Present product updates and performance metrics to leadership, funders and partner organisations.

### PERFORMANCE & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- Track and report key product metrics (e.g., adoption rates, API uptime, API calls, API call failures, calculation accuracy).
- Champion user-centred design, continuous feedback loops, and iterative improvement.
- Ensure Products deliver scientifically valid results, and meet regulatory, privacy, and open-data requirements

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Maintain current knowledge and comply with all AgResearch's health, safety, and wellbeing (Te Whare Tapa Whā), policies, frameworks, systems, and procedures.
- Demonstrate safe workplace behaviour by taking all practicable steps to ensure own and other's safety in the workplace, coaching and influencing your people to ensure goals are met.
- Identify and report incidents, hazards, near misses and safety observations via AgResearch's health and safety reporting system.

### ORGANISATIONAL OBJECTIVES



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- Actively participates in developing capability to strive towards our responsibilities as a tiriti partner. This includes, Te Tiriti o Waitangi training, te reo Māori me ōna tikanga, cultural bias training and actively supporting Māori employees to mitigate inequities.
- Ensures that all information created or received during the course of your work is managed as per AgResearch Information Management policy. This includes naming, storing, classifying and ensuring it is available to other staff as per the policy."
- Actively participates in AgResearch performance process including setting objectives and having a robust development plan. Proactively and constructively contributes to performance conversations and personal development.
- Embraces the AgResearch Values framework and develops own behaviours to support these values on a continuous basis.
- Takes responsibility to understand and apply AgResearch policy, processes, systems, and procedures daily.
- Commits to accurate and timely information sharing and recordkeeping as per set organisational standards.
- The accountabilities set out above are not exhaustive. Therefore, it may be necessary for you to undertake other reasonable accountabilities as required, which are within your abilities.

## PERSON SPECIFICATIONS

The person best suited to this position will possess the following:

### EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

- Ideally a relevant tertiary qualification in information systems or science related field.

### CAPABILITIES & EXPERIENCE

#### Essential –

- 5+ years' relevant experience in software development management.
- Proven experience as a Product Owner, Product Manager, or similar role delivering web or API-based software products.
- Strong understanding of agile product development practices.
- Ability to translate complex scientific or technical information into clear, prioritised requirements.
- Excellent stakeholder management and communication skills.

#### Desirable –

- Knowledge of agricultural, environmental science, or related research disciplines.



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- Familiarity with privacy legislation, open-data principles, and government reporting standards.

## **Skills & Attributes –**

- Strategic and analytical thinker with a focus on outcomes and user value.
- Strong facilitation and negotiation skills to balance competing interests.
- Proficiency in product management tools and frameworks.
- Commitment to the BSI's sustainability and emissions-reduction objectives.
- Relevant experience in a business development or relationship management.  
Knowledge and existing relationships with partners in the industry/sector area  
Experience in science, knowledge, technology and product development related sectors
- A sound understanding of project planning and management
- Sound financial and business acumen



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## COMPETENCIES

Organisational wide competencies – these are the competencies determined by the organisation as critical to every role.	
Accountability	Accepts responsibility for one’s actions regardless of outcomes.
Caring About People	Displays sensitivity towards the attitudes, feelings, or circumstances of others.
Developing People	Provides support, coaching, training, and career direction to others.
Integrity	Acts honestly in accordance with moral or ethical principles
Driving Results	Accomplishes goals, completes tasks, and achieves results.
Leveraging Diversity	Respects and values individual differences to obtain a desired effect or result.
Relationship Building	Develops collaborative relationships to facilitate current and future objectives.
Self-Development	Actively acquires new knowledge and skills to remain current with and/or grow beyond job requirements.
Role based competencies – these are the competencies required to perform this role.	
Customer Focus	Provides courteous, timely, and helpful service to encourage client loyalty.
Driving Innovation	Stimulates creative ideas and perspectives that add value.
Financial Insight	Applies financial knowledge to achieve organizational goals and objectives.
Flexibility	Changes direction as appropriate based on new ideas, approaches, and strategies.
Industry Insights	Applies knowledge of industry trends and outlooks to achieve organizational goals and objectives.
Negotiating	Explores alternatives to reach outcomes acceptable to all parties.
Networking	Builds and maintains a system of strategic business connections.
Presenting to Others	Conveys ideas and information to groups.
Sales Focus	Generates revenue by promoting products and services to others.
Solving Problems	Identifies solutions given available information.

