



# 2025

## PhD research opportunities

*Seeking the brightest graduates to advance your career in industry supported world-class bioscience research*



### The successful candidates will receive:

- A \$37,000 (tax free) (2025 rate) scholarship up to three and a half years
- Training in Australia's first integrated agricultural systems biology research centre, AgriBio
- Professional development programs
- International travel opportunities

**Based at AgriBio, the  
Centre for AgriBiosciences,  
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia**

Successful applicants must meet the La Trobe University entry requirements for a Doctor of Philosophy degree.

Check your eligibility here:

<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/apply/research/doctor>

For enquiries and to apply, please forward a covering letter, your curriculum vitae (please include evidence of research writing) and academic transcripts to:

### Kendra Whiteman Higher Education Manager

Agriculture Victoria Research  
[kendra.whiteman@agriculture.vic.gov.au](mailto:kendra.whiteman@agriculture.vic.gov.au)

**Closing date for applications:  
until filled**

### Current Projects:

#### Optimising sampling for surveillance and diagnostics of grain pests.

Effective field collection of invertebrates is critical to ensure Australia's continued biosecurity and management of established pests.

Through Agriculture Victoria, the Grains Research and Development Council (GRDC) is funding a PhD project to investigate optimising methods for trapping and collecting invertebrate samples from the field for the detection of endemic and exotic pests and pathogens of significance for the grains industry.

PhD Project Aims -

- To experimentally assess methods and approaches for field collection of pests and pathogens for grains surveillance and diagnostics. Including, comparisons with current industry approaches.
- To optimise trap types and density to enable effective sampling of target pests to support an industry applicable surveillance network within an area.

This project will utilise multiple collection techniques for grains pests and pathogens, including both field trials and laboratory research, assessed through morphological and molecular diagnostics.

This project will shape the future of pest surveillance in the grains industry. Through collaboration with a diverse team of researchers, applied entomologists, and industry end users, the student will receive comprehensive training, access to cutting-edge techniques and skills that are in high demand within academia and industry.