

## Careers in Agriculture

Graduates in Agricultural Science from Nottingham have good prospects for finding rewarding and well-paid jobs.

### Opportunities include:

- Dairy consultants/advisers
- Agricultural business management consultants
- Agronomists
- Animal feed industry
- Farming/rural business management
- Land market analysts
- Research in institutions and industry

## Graduate Profiles

Some of our recent graduates:

### Peter Cox

"Having graduated from Nottingham in July 2012, I embarked on a career in Agricultural Consultancy with Brown & Co. Whilst I had no experience of work as a consultant, I felt that the knowledge I gained through my degree certainly helped the transition to full time employment. I am now thoroughly enjoying working as an Agricultural Consultant.

Throughout my degree my interests always followed the arable and management side of agriculture and hence my module choices were featured mainly on these two elements. My initial career choice was agronomy; however, having successfully completed the management modules Rural Business Management and Management Consultancy on the course, I decided that a career in Agricultural Management would suit me better.

These two modules provided me with an excellent insight into the financial budgeting of farms – this really suited me as I was always interested in maths at school.

Looking forward, I hope to continue working as a consultant due to the wide range of projects and exercises I am involved with. Each day is different; recent work I have been doing includes client business appraisals and also monthly monitoring of client business income and expenditure.



To anyone who is undecided about studying at university, I would say it is one of the best things I have done because it opened many doors and has enabled me to follow my desired career path. I will always remember my time at Sutton Bonington Campus - I always enjoyed student life with its balance of work and social elements - sometimes more of the latter! "

**Karen Wonnacott - Course: BSc Animal Science, PhD Agricultural Sciences**

"After completing my degree in Animal Science at The University of Nottingham, I went on to complete a PhD at SB investigating the uptake of polyunsaturated fatty acids in the ruminant ovary and pre-implantation embryo.

SB gave me endless opportunities throughout my seven-and-a-half years there. These ranged from coaching the student netball team, being a member of the SB Guild, to being a Senior Resident Tutor of Sutton Bonington Hall. I gained a great deal of practical experience, both in the laboratory and with animal handling, which has now become invaluable to my chosen career.



After completing my PhD In 2009, I was appointed Research and Development Manager for DairyCo which is responsible for the milk sector. It is a division of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) which works to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of agriculture and horticulture in the UK. I was responsible for commissioning and managing research and development projects. Our aim was to promote world-class knowledge to British dairy farmers whilst reducing the environmental impact of dairy farming.

Since November 2011, I have been National Ruminant Technical Manager for BOCM PAULS, the UK's leading animal feed manufacturer. This role requires me to support the 70 'on-the-ground' ruminant sales staff, facilitating the implementation of farm trials, the collection, reporting and dissemination of data and fully supporting and developing the BOCM PAULS product and service offering along with the Head of Ruminant Development. Our aim is to provide quality nutritional solutions and services that can help farmers profit from sustainable businesses.

Coming from a small family-run ex-dairy farm that now farms beef and sheep in a beautiful part of mid-Devon I know how important it is to be flexible and adaptable. Sutton Bonington provided me with the sound foundations on which to base a successful (hopefully!) career. My ambition when I started my career was to make a difference to British dairy farming; I am hopefully achieving this in a small way with BOCM PAULS."

### Vicki Brooks



"Deciding which university to study at is not an easy job to do!! I went to the open days of all the universities which offered a course in BSc Agriculture. They all varied greatly in what they could offer you – some with a year out in industry, some without, and some with more of a science base than others. Of course you don't always just concentrate on the academic side – you also want to know about the social side of the uni as well! When I looked at the prospectus for Nottingham I already knew that it was at the very top of the league tables for agriculture. Speaking to the course manager and the lecturers it was evident that all of the teaching staff were keen to teach the students everything they knew in order for them to succeed in their chosen career."

The course offered everything I wanted; module choices in crop science, animal science and business management and then gradually allowed me to specialise in my preferred subjects.

Studying BSc Agriculture at Nottingham has provided me with a base to build my career on and when applying for jobs the interviewers were more than impressed with the knowledge that Sutton Bonington has provided me with! I am now working as a trainee agronomist for United Agri Products (UAP) and I am very happy with my chosen career."

### Charles Roe

"I have a job with Sentry Farming, a company that farms land from Dorset to Edinburgh. I am going in as a trainee manager on a large estate in Norfolk. I applied through Farmers Weekly magazine. The manager of the farm needed an undermanager to take over a lot of the day-to-day running of the place so that he would be free to take care of an expansion project. There is going to be a good mix of practical work as well as degree work."

People do degrees and then they have no relevance to what they are doing; I enjoy agriculture, that's why I came here and that's what I want to do in life. Student life at SB is awesome! I have been around with various clubs and societies to a few different universities and to see my mates – I still think that Sutton Bonington is the best place to be! I've been fairly involved with different clubs; I've done skiing, hockey, shooting and Agrig (the Agricultural Society). I've got on well with the academic staff; they are always there so you get to know them fairly well.

It's a small enough campus: any problems you can just nip up and see them."



**Alys Kindred**

At Nottingham, Alys used her research project to look at the impact of climate change on East Anglian farms. She went on to study for a joint campus Masters degree at the Universities of Aberdeen (UK) and Arkansas (USA), returning to manage a 400 hectare arable and pig unit in Suffolk.

**Mike Bullen**

Mike's knowledge of the Common Agricultural Policy and language skills gained from his European Studies course were invaluable in helping him secure a position as a land market analyst with FPD Savills, followed by work for the European Commission in Brussels.