



\*\* Please note – the information contained in this handout is accurate as at January 2011. Information regarding employment prospects/salary/growth is based on information derived from [www.skillsinfo.gov.au](http://www.skillsinfo.gov.au), [www.joboutlook.gov.au](http://www.joboutlook.gov.au) and Careers and Employment's own research.

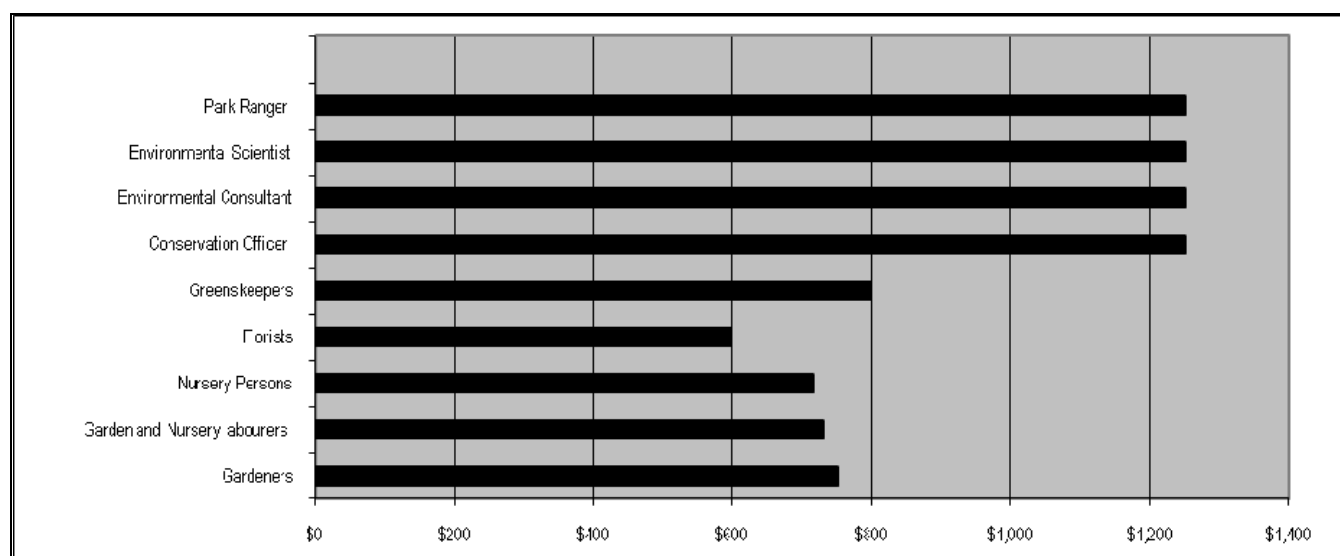
2011

Please note: the information contained in this document was current as of January 2011. Refer to [www.swinburne.edu.au/courses/](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/courses/) for the most recent updates. Refer to the School of Horticulture and Environment website [www.tafe.swinburne.edu.au/horticulture/](http://www.tafe.swinburne.edu.au/horticulture/) for further information and a list of the courses offered in this area.

### Industry overview

The horticultural sector is one of the most important primary industries in Australia. The demand for horticultural services is growing and will continue to grow. The need for environmental restoration and stopping erosion will require more expertise in environmental horticulture, and the need for bigger and better crops will increase demand for workers in agriculture. Opportunities are also developing in service areas such as marketing, finance and international trade within the industry.

### Horticulture Sector - Median Weekly Earnings (Full-Time & Before Tax)



Source: <http://joboutlook.gov.au>

### Job Titles

- Arborist
- Conservation and Land Management Staff
- Golf Course Manager
- Development Specialist
- Environmental Consultant
- Environmental Officer
- Environmental Planner
- Environmental Scientist
- Environmental Research Assistant
- Florist
- Flower Grower
- Flower Production
- Garden Writer
- Gardener
- Golf Course Manager
- Greenskeeper
- Horticultural Consultant
- Horticultural Sales Person
- Horticulture Teacher
- Landscape Contractor

- Landscape Designer
- Landscaper
- Landcare Worker
- Nursery Wholesaler
- Operations Manager
- Parks and Gardens Manager
- Plant Propagator
- Production Nursery Manager
- Production Nursery Owner
- Production Nursery Staff
- Ranger/Field Officer
- Resource Manager
- Retail Nursery and Garden Centre Manager
- Retail Nursery Manager
- Retail Nursery Owner
- Retail Nursery Staff
- Tree Manager
- Turf Manager
- Viticulturalist
- Wine Maker
- Vineyard Manager

## Horticulture

Courses in Horticulture allow students to focus their study on floriculture, landscape design and construction, turf management, parks and gardens, viticulture retail and wholesale nurseries. On the completion of their training, graduates are able to perform tasks such as recommending plants, planning vegetation works and setting up irrigation schedules. They will also be able to understand the importance of sustainability, the differing perspectives of producers and the rest of society in considering sustainability issues.

There are many areas of specialisation within the sector. These include floriculture, gardening, green keeping and nursery work. Within the sector, employment may be gained in a variety of settings such as small businesses, e.g. nurseries or landscape design companies, or in larger industry groups such as Landcare, in botanic gardens or in government departments. Private companies that hire horticulture graduates include resorts, golf courses, developers of horticultural products and private farms. Graduates will gain skills required to operate at a professional level in the nursery, landscaping, parks and gardens, turf or floriculture industry streams.

Job prospects for Garden and Nursery Labourers are below average. Employment for Garden and Nursery Labourers to 2014-15 is expected to grow slightly. Garden and Nursery Labourers are employed across several industries including: Administrative and Support Services; Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Public Administration and Safety; and Wholesale Trade. Landscape architects and gardeners have good employment opportunities and are expecting employment to grow slightly to 2014-15. Landscape gardening and turf management are two strongly growing areas linked with increased residential and commercial construction and the development of sporting facilities. Florists' job prospects are average, with employment expected to remain relatively steady over the next few years, as it has done over the past five. Please keep in mind that with small sectors such as floristry, employment estimates tend to fluctuate.

## Conservation and Land Management

Conservation and Land Management students learn to manage our natural resources, including flora, fauna, soils and water. Employment can be gained in both the public and private sectors within areas such as forest/park/catchment management, ecotourism, environmental science research, revegetation/land rehabilitation, hydrography, irrigation/ground water management and environmental education. Employers may include Parks Victoria, the Department of Sustainability and Environment, local governments and companies (both large and small) looking to restore or maintain natural environments (for example, mining or housing development companies, vegetation restoration contractors).

Job prospects for the environmental sciences are good and expected to grow strongly. Park rangers and conservation officers currently have good employment prospects and can expect the number of vacancies in their field to grow strongly over the next five years.

## Viticulture

Positions for viticulturalists are located across a diverse and growing number of regions throughout Australia. Vineyards vary in size from small operations (often family-owned) to large companies employing many people. You can gain experience by obtaining temporary or seasonal positions in a variety of grape-growing regions and countries. Viticulturalists with considerable experience can work as consultants to different wineries, although the majority of wineries prefer to have their own Viticulturalist. Students who complete viticulture courses may find self-employment as a vineyard supervisor, or employment in a technical or supervisory role in the wine industry. Job prospects are varied, with growth expected to be poor. Please keep in mind that with small sectors such as this, employment estimates tend to fluctuate.

## Further Education and Pathways

Students may choose to complete further study after completing their TAFE course. Credit pathways may be available from TAFE to Higher Education.

For a full list of credit pathways and requirements, see the Swinburne website:  
[www.future.swinburne.edu.au/pathways](http://www.future.swinburne.edu.au/pathways)

For entry and admission requirements: [www.swinburne.edu.au/courses](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/courses)

## References and Relevant Websites

- [www.joboutlook.gov.au](http://www.joboutlook.gov.au)
- [www.skillsinfo.gov.au/skills/IndustryOutlooks/IndustryOutlooks.htm#cultural](http://www.skillsinfo.gov.au/skills/IndustryOutlooks/IndustryOutlooks.htm#cultural)
- [www.environmentaljobs.com.au/](http://www.environmentaljobs.com.au/)
- [www.nrmjobs.com.au/](http://www.nrmjobs.com.au/)
- <http://naturalresource.alphalink.com.au/>
- [www.melbournewater.com.au/](http://www.melbournewater.com.au/)

## What help does Swinburne Careers and Employment offer?

### Career Services

- Career Counselling for Students
- Careers in the Curriculum (CIC) – Higher Education Students
- Plan Skills Development
- Career Seminars/Workshops for Students
- Resume and Cover Letter Checks
- Interview Practice
- Student Recruitment Service (Final Year Students)

### Career Resources

- Career Resource Library
- Job Search Handouts
- Interactive Career Planning
- What Can I Do With My Degree/ TAFE Qualification? (see website for resource)

### SwinEmploy Employment Service

- All job advertisements for graduate placements, casual, vacation, part-time and full-time employment
- Links to employer websites
- Enables students to book online for events such as workshops, employer information sessions and interviews
- Access to Going Global (over 10,000 job vacancies listed across Europe, Asia-Pacific, UK and US. Global key employer directories, work permits & visa regulations, country-specific cultural & interviewing advice & more)

**Download Careers and Employment job search handouts from SwinEmploy, including:**

- Addressing Selection Criteria
- Assessment Centres
- Cover Letters or Letters of Application
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- Employer Expectations of Graduates
- Interviews - How to Plan, Prepare and Perform
- Informational Interviewing
- Job Hunting
- Networking: What Is It and How Do You Do It?
- Online Applications
- Psychometric Tests
- Skills and Attributes
- Thinking About Changing Your Course?
- Tips for facing the work environment and your first professional job

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