



Desert Fruit (Pty) Ltd

Vacancy: Technical Scout Company Introduction

Desert Fruit (Pty) Ltd is a leading Namibian producer and exporter of high-quality date palms, supplying premium markets worldwide. Our operations are located along the Orange River, where innovative farming practices and sustainable orchard management ensure world-class fruit quality. We pride ourselves on meeting international phytosanitary standards and implementing the latest agricultural technologies to remain competitive in the export market.

Role Purpose

The Technical Scout plays a key role in our orchard monitoring system, ensuring early detection of pests, diseases, and operational deviations across our date palm orchards. The position supports sustainable production, adherence to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and compliance with export market requirements.

Key Responsibilities

Field Monitoring & Scouting

- Conduct regular field inspections using defined scouting patterns (e.g., M-shaped or W-shaped tree selection).
- Monitor and record pest and disease prevalence, crop development, and orchard health.
- Operate scouting equipment such as GPS-enabled devices, sweep nets, magnifying lenses, pheromone traps, and sticky traps.
- Conduct rapid sweep surveys beyond designated data trees to identify emerging threats.

Sample Collection & Data Management

- Collect and label fruit, leaf, and soil samples for laboratory analysis and pest identification.
- Maintain orchard history records, including block-specific data, pest trends, and treatment outcomes.
- Support yield forecasting by providing timely and accurate scouting reports.

Research, Compliance & Improvement

- Assist with research and development initiatives related to cultivation, harvesting, and post-harvest handling.
- Provide technical insights to improve scouting protocols and pest control strategies.
- Ensure compliance with phytosanitary regulations and internal SOP's.

Minimum Requirements

- Certificate/Diploma in Agriculture, Horticulture, or related field (pest management qualification advantageous).
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in orchard monitoring, pest scouting, or agricultural fieldwork.
- Knowledge of basic agronomic practices and orchard operations.
- Good vision (with or without corrective lenses) and strong observational skills.
- Ability to work independently and maintain high accuracy under supervision.
- Computer literacy (basic Excel and data recording tools).
- Valid Code B driver's license.

Additional Requirements

- Physical fitness to work in outdoor field conditions.
- Willingness to undergo performance checks and refresher training.
- Positive attitude and commitment to quality standards.

Key Performance Indicators

- Timeliness and accuracy of scouting reports.
- Early detection and reporting of pest/disease outbreaks.
- Compliance with scouting protocols and SOP's.
- Contribution to yield forecasting and operational efficiency.

Location

Ariamsvlei, Namibia

Employment Type

On-Site position.

Application Procedure

Please submit your application through our official recruitment portal at www.jobopportunities.net . Craft a compelling cover letter, attach your comprehensive CV, and provide authenticated copies of your relevant qualifications and certifications.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Applicants will be subjected to reference checks.

Closing date 29 August 2025 @ 7:00PM