



DIRECT REPORT: Technical Manager

SUBORDINATES: Technical Team

GRADE: Paterson

PURPOSE OF THE JOB

Position Overview

The Technical Assistant Manager plays a vital role in supporting Desert Fruit's orchard monitoring and technical operations. This position ensures early detection of pests, diseases, and other operational deviations across date palm orchards to maintain sustainable production, compliance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and readiness for export market requirements, including phytosanitary standards.

The incumbent will assist the Technical Manager in coordinating scouting activities, data collection, and analysis to promote continuous improvement and protect orchard health and productivity.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Education & Experience

- Relevant agricultural or analytical qualification (advantageous).
- Minimum of 2 years' experience as a Team Leader or Supervisor within an agricultural or technical environment.
- Experience in pest and disease monitoring, scouting principles, or agronomic practices.

Skills & Competencies

- Strong observational and analytical skills with 20/20 vision.
 - Training in pest identification, scouting techniques, and data recording.
 - Excellent communication and reporting skills.
 - High attention to detail and commitment to accuracy.
 - Proficiency in MS Excel and general computer literacy.
 - Ability to work independently and maintain high performance standards under supervision.
 - Willingness to undergo refresher training and performance assessments.
 - Positive, proactive attitude with a strong sense of accountability.
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KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Operational Management

- Conduct regular field inspections using established scouting patterns (e.g., M-shaped or W-shaped tree selection).
- Monitor and record pest and disease activity, crop development, and orchard health.
- Collect, label, and submit fruit, leaf, and soil samples for laboratory analysis and identification.
- Operate and maintain scouting equipment, including GPS devices, sweep nets, and pheromone traps.
- Perform rapid surveys to identify emerging pest or disease threats.
- Maintain accurate orchard history records, including block-level pest trends and treatment outcomes.
- Support the implementation and improvement of scouting protocols and pest management strategies.

Data Management & Reporting

- Prepare timely and accurate scouting reports for review by the Technical Manager.
- Contribute to yield forecasting and operational efficiency reporting.
- Ensure compliance with Desert Fruit's technical SOPs and quality assurance standards.

Continuous Improvement

- Participate in research and development initiatives to improve cultivation, harvesting, and post-harvest processes.
- Provide feedback and insights to improve data collection, technology use, and orchard health management.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please submit your application through our official recruitment portal at

www.jobopportunities.net.

Include a **cover letter**, your **comprehensive CV**, and **authenticated copies** of your relevant qualifications and certifications.

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

Closing Date: 31 October 2025 @ 7:00PM