

Chemist

Purpose

We analyse samples, mostly from farmers, to give them data about what is happening with their soil and water. As an analytical chemist I make sure that the results that I produce for customers provide accurate information about elements in the environment.



A typical day in your role

It can vary, my main role is in the laboratory running instrumentation and reporting results out to our clients. We also attend field days, give presentations, and work with school groups including going out to career workshops.

Education and training

I have a bachelor's degree in science sub-majoring in chemistry from the University of Technology Sydney. I did a traineeship with CSIRO and that lead me to doing and Honours degree also at UTS.

Quote

“It took me a long time to work out what I wanted to do so just do something when you finish school and do it well, people notice when you are really having a go.”

What impact do you see technology having on this work?

A lot of the work we do here is automated already, and that will increase. You will still need people to interpret the data and trouble shoot and fix problems and to think about the bigger picture.

For more schools resources go to: <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/school-resources>

Steven Leahy

Wollongbar Primary Industries Institute

For more detail
about Steven's
role watch his
video

