



# Brendan

## Operations Scheduler

I am an Operations Scheduler with a major fresh produce transport company, based in Gatton Queensland.

I coordinate the freight logistics of fresh produce between growers, supermarkets, market agents, wholesalers and distributors. I send produce to Melbourne, Adelaide, Tasmania and Far North Queensland.

I spend a lot of time on the telephone talking with the various people involved in getting the produce from the farm to the consumer. This includes the farmers, truck drivers and workers within the supply chain.

To manage the administrative side of this job requires good computer skills. However, because the fresh produce industry is so fast paced I find it easier to keep track of things by using a whiteboard rather than a computer. My whiteboard includes information to track efficiencies, truck routes, staffing, temperatures, timeslots, product variations, load statistics, interstate locations, food safety requirements and permits.

A lot of my training has been done on the job. My employer provides training unique to the fresh produce industry. I have also attended courses on Fatigue Management, Scheduling and the Chain of Responsibility. It is helpful to have experience driving a forklift or tractor and an understanding of food safety, along with knowledge of the constraints of working with fresh produce. A formal qualification would be a good start and would broaden your ability to gain employment in many areas of logistics.

The best part of my job is the satisfaction of knowing that I have helped to get produce delivered on time and in top quality.



### USEFUL SCHOOL SUBJECTS:

- English
- Mathematics
- Information Technology
- Certificate I or II in Logistics

### WHAT YOU COULD STUDY:

- Certificate IV or Diploma in Logistics
- Bachelor of Business (Logistics and Supply Chain Management)
- Graduate Certificate in Logistics and Supply Chain Management

### OTHER CAREERS TO CONSIDER:

- On-farm Dispatcher
- Logistics Supervisor
- Supply Chain Coordinator
- Transport Planner

### PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Communication skills
- Time management skills
- Organisational skills
- Ability to adapt to change
- Details oriented





## EXPERIENCE AGRICULTURE

### **TASTE: The Agricultural Skills & Technology Experience**

- Initiative of Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges
- Four-day school holiday program for students aged 15+
- For more information freecall 1800 888 710 or email [enquiries@qatc.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@qatc.edu.au)

### **FEAST: Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science & Technology**

- Initiative of the University of Queensland
- Five-day school holiday program for students in years 10, 11 and 12
- For more information email [feast@uq.edu.au](mailto:feast@uq.edu.au)

## USEFUL CAREER GUIDES

### **[www.ruralcareers.net.au](http://www.ruralcareers.net.au)**

Rural Skills Australia's careers and employment guide provides comprehensive advice, information and reference material about education, training, careers and employment pathways in rural and related industries.

### **[www.careerharvest.com.au](http://www.careerharvest.com.au)**

Career Harvest is a hub for cutting-edge careers within the food and fibre industries. Whether you're interested in feeding the world, adapting to climate change, developing the environment or managing future energy sources, this site helps create clearer pathways for you to harvest your agricultural career.

## SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

### **Horizon Scholarship**

(<http://bit.ly/HorizonScholarship>)

- Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation initiative
- supports students studying ag-related degrees at university
- \$5000 per year for duration of degree

### **GROWCOM COMMUNICATIONS**

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