CAREER PROFILES

General Farm Workers:

General Farm Workers plant, cultivate, and harvest crops, raise livestock and poultry, and maintain and repair farm equipment and buildings. Workers in this field include operators of farm machinery. This is typically manual work in the performance of semi-skilled farm tasks of a physically demanding nature.

Wage/Salary Information:

$34,780.06 is the median salary found locally.

$16.72/hour is the median wage reported locally.

Commonly Listed Skills in Job Postings:

- Teamwork
- Detail oriented
- Manual dexterity
- Problem solving
- Self-motivated
- Critical thinking
- Heavy equipment operation
- Work independently
- Oral and written communication
- Bilingual
- Numeracy
- Forklift driving
- Animal care
- Marketing
- Adaptability

Job Duties:

General Farm Workers plant, fertilize, cultivate, spray, irrigate, and harvest crops. General Farm Workers feed and tend livestock and poultry and milk cows. They operate and maintain farm machinery and equipment and clean stables, barns, barnyards, and pens. General Farm Workers also detect disease and health problems in crops, livestock, and poultry and examine produce for quality and prepare for the market.

Working Conditions:

Work takes place both indoors and outdoors, so workers may be exposed to various weather conditions.

Workers use machinery, tools and heavy farm equipment, such as tractors, which can pose the risk of injury.

Strong odours are common on a farm.

Farmers may be exposed to chemicals, such as pesticides, and dust and sand in the workplace.

Workers may also be exposed to infectious bacteria and viruses as a result of treating sick animals.

Workers may be exposed to enough noise to affect hearing.

Some machinery can cause a vibrating or back and forth motion in the body.

Career Pathways:

There are a wide variety of positions available in this field. Training in a specific area will typically determine a General Farm Workers' role. Progression to supervisory positions is possible with experience.

General farm workers are employed on crop, livestock, fruit, vegetable, and specialty farms. Below are potential career paths for General Farm Workers:

- Beef Cattle Farm Worker
- Cattle Ranch Labourer
- Dairy Farm Worker
- Farm Machinery Operator
- General Farm Worker
- Grain Farm Worker
- Harvester Machine Operator
- Hatchery Worker
- Poultry Farm Worker
- Vegetable Farm Worker

Check out more possible career pathways on WEexplore.

Education and Training Pathways:

If you're interested in becoming a General Farm Worker, you can acquire training/education locally at any of the following institutions.

St. Clair College:

Landscape Horticulture

Admission/Eligibility Requirements: OSSD with the majority of courses at the College (C), University (U), University/College (M), or Open (O)

Academic Credential: Two Year - Ontario College Diploma

Professional Certification: Students will be prepared to pursue Landscape Ontario's Landscape Industry Certified Technician Exam, and also receive training for certification in Pesticides (Technician and Exterminator), Front End Loader/Skid Steer Operator and Chainsaw Certification

Attendance: In-person

Full-time or Part-time: Full-time

Program Length: 4 semesters

Program Cycle: Unknown

Program Cost:

- Year 1: $4,341.61
- Year 2: $3,819.05
- Total: $8,160.66 (2017/18)

OSAP Eligible: Unknown

Location: 2000 Talbot Road West, Windsor, N9A 6S4

For more information on this program, please visit:

http://www.stclaircollege.ca/programs/postsec/horticulture/

Disclaimer: *The educational institution reserves the right to change information without notice, and may result in discrepancies between their information and the information presented above. If any errors are found, please report them to info@workforcewindsoressex.com.*