

# Agriculture Izz Everywhere!:

## Career Glossary with Professor Pizza

In Agriculture Izz Everywhere, I told you all about where your food comes from and the work that people do to get these yummy foods to your plate. In this section we are going to take a closer look at the exciting jobs in food and agriculture. Section 1 talks about people who do work within the food value chain, and Section 2 is where we cover other people who do important work to help food reach your plates. Let's get started!



# Section 1

First, let me talk to you some more about the food value chain. The food value chain is made up of different stages, and most of the foods you eat have passed through each part to get to you! At each step of the chain there are many people who do work to help your food move to the next part. The main stages of the food value chain are **food production, food processing and distribution, food marketing and access, and preparation and consumption.**

## Stage 1 – Food Production Stage

In this stage, food is grown, or produced, by growers on their farms. Farmers in countries all over the world grow fruits, vegetables, and grains and raise animals for meat and dairy products. Plus, they do so much more! The food from the farm is purchased and used as ingredients to make other food products. For example, a potato grower will sell their crop to a company to make potato chips. Let's look at some careers and businesses within the food production stage.

Page 6, line 5: "...She starts with inputs like seed and feed..."

To get the delicious food grown on farms, a farmer has to first get **inputs**. An **input company** works closely with farmers to make sure they have everything they need to produce fresh and healthy crops and animals. Working for one of these companies can be a super cool career! Let's take a closer look.

**Seed company** – A seed company supplies the seeds that farmers plant in the ground on their farms.

**Agricultural machinery** – Farming requires a lot of machinery to be a success. There are companies that invent machinery that makes growing food faster and easier, and they are sold to farmers.

**Pesticide company** – These companies create products that help protect the crops from bugs and diseases that would harm the growing food.

**Animal feed supplier** – These companies supply the farmers with food for the livestock animals.



Page 6, line 6: "...And sometimes she gets advice..."

At the production stage, there are people called **specialists** who help farmers make decisions about how to grow their crops and animals. One example is a **crop advisor**.

**Crop Advisor** - A crop advisor best understands what plants need to grow and be healthy. They work closely with farmers and help them with many things. A few examples are: how to make the soil healthier for plants to grow in, how to keep diseases and bugs from wrecking crops, and choosing the best seeds to plant.

## Stage 2 – Food Processing Stage

Crops, animal meat, and other edible raw materials move from stage one to stage two. At this stage, the raw materials are made into different types of foods through the action of **processing**. Two examples of careers in the processing stage are **food scientist** and **supply chain manager**. Let's take a closer look!

Page 7, lines 1-2: "...The processing stage is so much fun!  
It's where food scientists show their skill..."

**Food scientists** - Food scientists wear many hats! They use chemistry, biology and other sciences to understand food. They study how to make safe food, how to make new foods and they even look at how healthy different types of foods are for our bodies.

Page 7, lines 7-8: "...The people who manage the production line,  
Help make your favourite breakfast cereals..."

**Supply chain manager** - This job is super important! Their work spans from purchasing the raw materials to delivery of the food product. These people help the production of food to flow by working to make sure the factory always has the right amount of raw material, and the right amount of product is made on time. They also help to plan food storage and make sure food is stored and shipped safely.

## Stage 3 – Food Marketing, Trade and Access



This stage handles all the ways that finished products are brought to market. The food market is huge because it spans all over the world. Food is labelled with a price and transported to a place where people can access it. **Agri-food marketer** and **food trade specialist** are two interesting careers in this part of the chain. Let's talk about what they do!

Page 8, line 3-4: "...There's people who find buyers through show and tell,  
And they come up with a price to charge..."

**Agri-food marketer** – This person works to make sure people know about and purchase the final product. A marketer helps to put a price to the food item, comes up with cool ways to make the product stand out and encourages people to try it.

Page 8, lines 7-8 "...And there's people who know just what to do,  
To make that food appear..."

**Food trade specialist** – This person understands the global market for food and the rules that each country has to follow when buying and selling. They look at trends and provide tips to companies and governments on things like food prices, food nutrition, food labelling, food safety and quality of food.

## Stage 4 – Preparation and Consumption

This is the part of the chain where food has reached the consumer. The consumer is food's final stop – here is where we prepare, share, and enjoy yummy food!



## Section 2

The food system is supported by many other services that are not directly part of the food value chain. In this section, we will talk about the roles of **scientific research** and **environmental work**.

### Science and Research in Agriculture

Scientists and their research are a huge help to food systems. They make new discoveries all the time! These discoveries can help make food processing methods better, can save farmers time when growing food, and can even help food stay fresh longer! Let's look at some of the things a **plant scientist** and **animal scientist** do.

Page 10, lines 3-4: "...Plant breeding and bug control, Helps food to reach your plates..."

**Plant scientist** – A plant scientist would help to make new and better ways to grow plants. They research ways to deal with insects and other plants that can harm crops. They use what they find in their research to make and share new techniques with the industry.

Page 10, lines 7-8: "...These tasty foods you'd never eat, If animal scientists weren't there..."

**Animal Scientist** – An animal scientist researches farm animals and learns more about things like their health, growth and diseases. They try to understand ways to get more meat, poultry, eggs and milk from the animals. These people would also give farmers tips on how to make the animals happy while on the farm.



## Environment and Sustainability

People who care for the planet also help food systems to thrive. Things like water, land, soil and air are called resources, and these resources are shared between all the people living on Earth. It is bad for food production if resources are overused or polluted, so work that helps the environment also helps food! Two cool career choices are an **environmental scientist** and **environmental economist**. Let's look at some of the things they do.

Page 11, line 9: "...They test the soils, water and air..."

**Environmental scientist** - A person with this job will run a test to understand the state of the environment. They help to plan how to control or fix environmental problems and write important reports to share what they've found to businesses and governments.

Page 11, line 10: "...And make rules for all the resources we share.."

**Environmental economist** - These people help society to understand the value of resources like water, air and land. Their work helps people, groups and businesses to know how their actions affect the environment and they make rules for everyone to follow so the planet can stay safe.



Remember: food is needed by everyone, everywhere! All of these jobs help our food to make it where we can access it – in our homes, schools, local supermarkets, restaurants and more. Look around you – Agriculture Izz Everywhere!



*Prof. PiZza*