

## Amrik Singh - Trainee Manager at Seeka



Amrik Singh is a young professional in the New Zealand kiwifruit industry, currently holding the position of trainee manager at Seeka. Singh's journey to his current role has been a classic story of hard work and determination, and it all started when Amrik took a job as a regular labourer. He soon fell in love with the work and with being outside every day and knew that he wanted to make a career out of it.

*"I slowly worked through the ranks, became a supervisor. I did that for a few years, learned the ropes, learned how to do budgeting,"* said Amrik.

His hard work paid off when he was promoted to supervisor after just eight months on the job. But Amrik wasn't content to sit back and relax his efforts, and he knew that there was more he could achieve. With that in mind, he set his sights on moving up at Seeka.

As a trainee manager, Amrik is responsible for all aspects of the orchard, from planning and executing winter pruning and coordinating and monitoring the use of sprays, to ensuring that everything is up to scratch in terms of health and safety and keeping a close eye on the progress of the crop.

*"I'm responsible for the whole property pretty much,"* he says, *"from organising winter pruning, sprays, maintenance, making sure everything is up to scratch health and safety wise, and making sure that you've got a good crop tracking along quite nicely."*

A typical day for Amrik starts with checking the weather and planning his day ahead. In the morning, he checks to see if any sprays need to be done or if labour or contractors need to be organised. On Mondays, he goes into the office to process invoices and "all that sort of fun stuff," he says with a smile. Then he heads out into the orchard to check on his team and make sure everyone has what they need.

Amrik loves his job and the variety it offers.

*"We had a team of Samoans and Vanuatians that worked for us last year, I loved working with them and still keep good connections with them,"* he said. *"It's a great industry to work in, you can wake up in the morning and really be like 'sweet, I'm not doing the same job every single day.' There might be a couple days of the same thing, but then the next jobs are different. It just feels right. Natural."*

Despite the hard work and long hours, Amrik wouldn't have it any other way. He takes great pride in the work that he does and is grateful for the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the kiwifruit industry. With his dedication and passion, there's no doubt that Singh will have a long, successful career in kiwifruit.

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