

Working with farmers – an applied environmental leadership internship

Agricultural R&D in the southern Arava, in collaboration with the Arava Institute, focuses on practical research to improve farming in this extremely arid desert region. The Agroecology Lab is a key part of this effort, with the primary goal of creating sustainable solutions for agricultural challenges while considering the environment's well-being.

Over the past six years, we've gained a wealth of knowledge, deepening our understanding of the region's agricultural ecosystem. We've also developed solutions and alternative approaches for dealing with pests and enhancing various aspects of agriculture.

The internship is an integral part of our broader research initiative, which centers on Ecosystem Services, agroecology, and social-ecology. The intern will play a crucial role in connecting various sub-projects and their outcomes.

Specifically, the intern will create a bilingual brochure (in English and Hebrew) for farmers, summarizing key findings and providing practical guidance for on-field applications. This involves engaging with multiple research projects (around 8-10), communicating with research teams, reviewing project reports, and distilling the most important and relevant results to craft the brochure. Interns will also directly coordinate with designers and printers to bring the brochure to life.

Additionally, interns will assist in organizing workshops or conferences for farmers and other interested parties to present the main project outcomes and launch the brochure. This work serves as a vital bridge between research and farmers, making it an essential component of our applied research approach.

The internship offers a unique opportunity to become familiar with various research projects, collaborate with research teams, and connect with the farming community. It is a chance to develop and refine skills in management, coordination, and writing, as well as to gain a comprehensive understanding of research from different perspectives—those of researchers and farmers alike.

Ideally, the internship should span over two semesters, allowing interns to immerse themselves in our research and make a meaningful contribution to its success.

www.arava.org