



SPOTLIGHT ON STEM



UQ's Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology (FEAST)

A budding agricultural scientist, Year 11 student Ava G recently had the opportunity to broaden her horizons and fuel her passion for the field by attending the University of Queensland's Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science, and Technology (FEAST) camp. This immersive program offered her a unique glimpse into the vibrant world of agricultural science, featuring hands-on activities, insightful workshops, and invaluable interactions with industry experts. Ava shares her transformative experience, shedding light on how the camp has inspired her future academic and career aspirations.

During the first week of school holidays, I participated in UQ's Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology program at their Gatton campus. I heard about FEAST from my Agriculture teacher Mr Butcher as he informed our class that

one student was being given the opportunity to participate in this program and I was lucky enough to have been chosen. During my experience, we learnt a wide range of things such as having a microscopy workshop on parasitology and an animal anatomy workshop where we looked at x-rays and the ways vets are able to identify issues with animals and help them.



Ava G

**2024 YEAR 11 STUDENT
CORINDA STATE HIGH SCHOOL**



FEAST participants explore science disciplines through hands-on activities and workshops

There were also many lecturers who came and talked with us about their studies, their professions, and their passions. We learnt so much from them! A few personal highlights of the program were the disco that was held on the third night, and also the UQ Young Researchers Panel where they had four women who were completing their PHDs, talk to us about their career journey. These talks were invaluable as they explained a lot and helped me understand more about what I want to do with my life post high school.

The program definitely complimented what I study in Agriculture at Corinda SHS. At school we learn about how farming is improving with the use of automatic machinery and digital applications. At FEAST they showed us how they use digital applications for things such as seed counting, and root angles and lengths which can impact their yield and help produce more food for the world.

This was 100% one of the best experiences of my life. I got so much out of the program, it was so informative and extremely fun and I am so grateful to have been a part of it.



UQ's FEAST program is designed to inspire high school students to explore careers in agriculture, science, and technology. It typically involves a 4-day residential camp where students participate in hands-on activities, workshops, and presentations from industry professionals and university academics.

