

SPL 2027 Graduate Programme - Trainee Grower

MG Fresh Produce Group Warkworth, Auckland

CULTIVATE YOUR CAREER FROM THE GROUND UP

SPL is a premier farming subsidiary of the MG Fresh Produce Group, New Zealand's leading supplier of domestically grown and imported fresh produce. As a key part of our large grower network, SPL specializes in world-class, large-scale glasshouse production of Capsicums, Tomatoes and Snack Cucumbers.

The SPL Graduate Programme is custom-built for those who want to be part of a growing focused learning and development programme that includes being on the tools and boots on the ground. This pathway is designed to shape the next generation of growing experts and operational leaders in the horticulture space. You'll be part of a team that values a positive mindset, operational efficiency, teamwork and communication.

The SPL Graduate Programme offers fresh thinkers who thrive on technical precision, science, and hands-on complex management an opportunity to launch their careers in the horticulture industry. If you're not afraid of hard work, thrive in a dynamic environment and are looking for a graduate role within a well-established industry, apply with us at SPL.

THE DETAILS

You will join our 2027 Graduate Programme commencing between December 2026 and January 2027, as mutually agreed. Over the course of the 12-month program, you will dive deep into a technical, hands-on rotation designed to give you a comprehensive understanding of advanced horticulture and farm operations.

Your journey will see you gain practical, real-world experience across all critical pillars of our farming operations:

- **Glasshouse Work:** Master the fundamentals of climate-controlled environments and daily crop maintenance.

- **Pest & Disease Management:** Learn the science behind crop protection, scouting, and advanced biological control methods.
- **Nutrients & Technical Operations:** Dive into agronomy, irrigation, crop feeding schedules, and managing root-zone data.
- **Crop Rotation & Strategy:** Understand the planning, lifecycle management, and execution of seasonal crops.
- **The Packhouse:** Experience the post-harvest journey, ensuring quality control and logistics align from vine to customer.
- **Complex Management:** Develop the leadership, health & safety, and workflow management skills needed to run a large-scale agricultural operation.

Once you have worked through our critical farming operation pillars, you will be fast tracked toward a Trainee Grower or Assistant Grower role within our operations.

WHY JOIN SPL?

- **Attractive Package:** Competitive salary, complete with a company mobile phone and laptop.
- **Industry-Leading Mentorship:** Work alongside the best growers and technical specialists in the business to learn essential, modern horticulture skills.
- **Health & Wellbeing Focus:** Support from our EAP (Employee Assistance Programme) including free annual health checks.
- **Strong Career Pathway:** Structured yet dynamic career progression within both SPL and the wider MG Group network.
- **Team Trip:** Join the wider MG Group graduate cohort in late January 2027 for an overnight team-building and training trip.

WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are looking for self-starters who are passionate about the future of food production and aren't afraid of working in covered crop environments, enjoy active physical work and occasional weekend work.

- **Education:** Recently graduated from a New Zealand University, Polytech, or equivalent training institution.
- **Preferred Majors:** Agriculture, Horticultural Science, Management Studies, Supply Chain Logistics, Commerce, Plant Science, Biological Sciences, or Agribusiness.
- **Background:** An interest or background in agriculture/horticulture, or experience working in the industry is highly preferred.
- **Attributes:** Strong analytical and communication skills, a problem-solving mindset, and an eagerness to take on management responsibilities over time.

Ready to grow your career with us?

If you are interested in the opportunity to join the SPL team and become a future leader in sustainable growing, please apply by clicking on the 'apply now' button and send through your cv and cover letter explaining why you want to be a Trainee Grower with SPL.

The Graduate Programme preferred commencement December 2026, or otherwise agreed.

Read more about SPL by visiting: www.spl.co.nz or apply today!

To apply, please email your CV with a covering letter explaining why you are interested this opportunity to: recruit@spl.nz

