

# Employee Spotlight



## Adria Bhatnagar

Genetic Services Specialist  
Joined PIC in 2015

### What was your background that led you to PIC?

I received my undergraduate degree from North Carolina State, M.S. from Virginia Tech and Ph.D. from University of Nebraska in Animal Science, specializing in Breeding and Genetics. Having not come from an ag background, I took a bit of a different route. I originally wanted to do vet school or equine genetics, but all of my coursework was focused on livestock and livestock genetics, and I found it really fascinating. When I was looking for a permanent position, I looked more towards livestock genetics, so I applied for my current position at PIC.

### What made you want to work at PIC?

I would say their reputation as a science-focused company that was really driving the pork industry is what interested me. Working in academia or a research-based setting, I struggled to see how the research would be applied in the “real world” and actually help the industry, and I wanted a career where that was more apparent. During the interview process, everyone was very positive and clearly focused on the goal of helping the customers. PIC can easily show the impact our work has for our customers and the industry in general.

### What have you learned from your time at PIC?

I did not come from an agricultural background, so I got a crash-course in pig production and how genetics is actually applied on-farm. Becoming more customer-centric and realistic about how to implement science was something I had to learn as well.

### What is your favorite part about working at PIC?

I enjoy problem solving, and my position requires a good bit of that. I also know that this is a real problem actually affecting a real farm so my work will be relevant in the industry and not just an academic exercise.

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