Livestock Agricultural Assistant

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Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation District 35-
Technician/Administrative/Research/Agricultural

Livestock Agricultural Assistant

Ponsonby Research Station Sheep & General Animal Facility, Research Station Operations, Office of Research

Temporary full-time from February 1, 2019 to January 30, 2020
Temporary absence of the regular incumbent

Hiring #: 2019-0073

Please read the Application Instructions [1] before applying

Reporting to the Foreman of the Ponsonby Research Station; the Livestock Agricultural Assistant is responsible for all aspects of herd husbandry, including attending to the daily comfort, care, health and production needs of various livestock

General duties include: Maintaining a Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) flock in order to meet animal health standards for use in research and teaching. Management of the reproductively active ewe and her multi-birth lambs, lambing assistance, recognition of failure of maternal bonding and knowledge of appropriate treatment protocols to ensure survival of neonatal lambs. Accelerated breeding procedures, breeding criteria, genetics considerations and replacement stock selection. Maintaining effective bio security and sanitation protocols for each facility and when moving between facilities. Understanding the principles of animal comfort, manure and bedding management, operation and maintenance of livestock equipment. Understanding the principles of livestock feeding (maintain optimum feed mix and supplements, monitoring intake; removal of spoilage. Exercising proper procedures in moving, handling and restraint techniques for all ages of cattle, sheep and pigs

Other responsibilities include: Maintaining accurate, organized and up-to-date written and computerized individual animal records for health and management purposes, strict adherence to drug withdrawal periods. Administering appropriate treatments and protocols at prescribed times (i.e., feeding/weighing experimental rations; implementing specific management protocols, etc.) Accurate recording of research data, proper collection, storing and submission of research samples. Assisting researchers according to facility base line services. Providing operational guidance for researchers/students/veterinarians.

Competent operation and maintenance of equipment such as feed handling and transport, manure handling, sanitation, production related equipment, animal handling as well as tractors, skid steers. Routine facility maintenance and upkeep and maintaining a high standard of cleanliness in barns, labs, offices and shared facilities. Incumbents must be prepared to work as required in weather extremes, with exposure to odours, noise, dust,

The successful candidate will have good communication and positive interpersonal skills; be adaptable, dependable, a quick learner, organized and self-directed/managed. Additionally, the incumbent will have demonstrated ability to take initiative to learn, understand and complete all elements of the required tasks and to function in a mature manner with other staff in a team setting. The successful candidate will be safety conscious, computer literate and attentive to detail.

Requirements for the position include: Associate Diploma in Agriculture and one year of current, competent working experience encompassing the full range of responsibilities encountered in a modern, commercial sheep operation
or an equivalent combination of education and experience. First Aid and CPR certification preferred.

A valid Class G driver’s license minimum with higher license endorsements or ability to obtain is required. The incumbent is expected to work in all areas of responsibility at the Ponsonby facility as assigned. Normal work week is 40 hours; individual shifts are 8 hours and includes working weekends and holidays as scheduled. The incumbent is also expected to be flexible to cover workloads during peak periods, weekends, vacation schedules or emergency staff shortages. All positions require physical strength and stamina.

(Covering) Position Number 447-022
Classification OSSTF/TARA, District 35 Salary Band 5
Normal Hiring Range $24.93 – $27.83 per hour

At the University of Guelph, fostering a culture of inclusion [2] is an institutional imperative. The University invites and encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in employment, who may contribute to further diversification of our Institution.

Posting Date: 2019 02 04
Closing Date: 2019 02 22

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Links
[1] https://www.uoguelph.ca/hr/careers-guelph/how-apply