Livestock Agricultural Assistant

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

Livestock Agricultural Assistant

Ontario Dairy Research Centre, Research Stations Operations, Office of Research

Temporary full-time from October 2022 to June 30, 2025
Temporary absence of the regular incumbent
Hiring #: 2022-0627

Please read the Application Instructions [1] before applying

Reporting to the Research Facility Foreperson, the incumbent is accountable for all aspects of herd husbandry, attending to the daily comfort, care, health, and production needs of dairy cattle.

This position includes the full range of activities required in a commercial dairy operation. Work with dairy cattle will require: in-depth knowledge of proper milking and sanitation procedures, DFO standards and penalties; operation and maintenance of all milking equipment systems; understanding the specific care, handling and production needs of the breeding heifer, fresh cow, milking and dry cow; understanding proper calving techniques, calf care, ID and registration requirements; data entry using dairy management software; identifying dairy specific disease; knowledge of proper drug handling, withdrawal times, record keeping; proper feed management, storage, feed prep, delivery and nutritional requirements for all ages of dairy cattle.

General duties include:

- Preparing and delivering feed rations, and monitoring feed and water intake
- Cleaning animal and traffic areas, including management of manure
- Maintaining a high standard of cleanliness in barns, labs, offices, and shared facilities and working in accordance with all Health and Safety precautions and procedures
- Following procedures for disease control and identifying and treating health concerns according to standard operating procedures, research protocols and livestock medicine protocols
- Providing quality research data collection, sample collection, breeding, testing, and health recordkeeping
- Assisting researchers and veterinarians in animal handling and general research project support, as well as assisting in preparation and feeding of research feeds
- Following research procedures and animal utilization protocols
- Operating and maintaining dairy animal related equipment, such as: production-related equipment; facility support equipment; computerized weighing equipment; tractors, skid steers, feed carts, data rangsers, and small wheel loaders; milking equipment (tie-stall, rotary and robotic); robotic calf feeders; automated manure removal equipment; ventilation and misc. research related equipment

Requirements for the position include:

- Associate Diploma in Agriculture and a minimum of one (1) year of current working experience encompassing the full range of responsibilities encountered in a modern, commercial dairy operation, or an equivalent combination of education and experience
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
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- Adaptable, dependable, a quick learner, and highly organized
- Demonstrated ability to take initiative to learn, understand and complete all elements of the Livestock Agricultural Assistant role, with ability to work well independently and with other staff in a team setting
- Must be safety conscious, computer literate and attentive to detail
- First Aid and CPR certification preferred
- A valid Class G driver’s license or ability to obtain is required

The incumbent is expected to work in all areas of responsibility at the Dairy facility as assigned. Normal work week is 40 hours; individual rotating shifts are 11.5 hours, working on a two-shift system and 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. The incumbent must be prepared to work as required in all weather and typical barn environments.

(Covering) Position Number   447-043
Classification               OSSTF/TARA, District 35 Salary Band 5
Normal Hiring Range $26.46 – $29.54 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: 2022 09 06
Closing Date: 2022 09 19

Page category: Current Opportunity [3]

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