

## **Livestock Educator Position Description Based in Mercer County**

Level: 03/04

Number of Jobs: 1

Announce Start Date: December 15, 2020

Announce End Date: \*\* Open Until Filled \*\*

Typical Job Duties:

The College of Agricultural Sciences is seeking an individual trained in animal science to join our nationally recognized Penn State Extension Livestock Team. The individual will be responsible for actively working with the team to identify important livestock industry issues, formulate learning objectives, develop educational events and materials to support these objectives and participate in evaluations to measure the team's educational impact. While we are seeking disciplinary expertise in livestock health and nutrition, preference will be given to individuals with an emphasis on small ruminants is preferred. It is expected that competitive candidates will have a general understanding of various livestock farm management and animal comfort and well-being practices. Experience in parasite control protocols, pasture management, and environmental conservation are favorable attributes. Team members are expected to work closely with university based research faculty in developing and conducting applied research that is relevant to clientele needs. An expectation would be contributing to a major effort in the state to improve small ruminant production efficiency and management by developing new programs based on sheep or meat goat health and nutrition. In addition, there is an expectation that the successful candidate would participate in existing efforts to reduce nutrient loading into streams by improved management of pastures and application of sustainable farm management practices. The individual must be able to work effectively on a team and with diverse populations and audiences. The successful candidate will need to develop and/or participate in interdisciplinary collaborations across multiple disciplines and institutions. All team members are expected to participate in the development of a diverse external funding portfolio (e.g. grants, contracts, cost recovery, development) in support of the team's programs. The individual will develop original content to engage audiences through innovative educational methods such as online courses, webinars, videos, mobile apps, and electronic publications, in addition to traditional publications and in-person presentations. Major responsibilities will include planning, implementing, conducting and evaluating a broad educational program focused on small ruminant health and nutrition. While the successful candidate will be stationed in Extension Area 1, they will be part of a state team and thus expected to participate and deliver programs statewide. The home base will be in Mercer County (Office location: 463 N. Perry Hwy, Mercer, PA 16137). The successful individual must possess skills for excellent teaching, program development, impact evaluation, and grant management. The candidate must demonstrate positive human relations and effective communication skills necessary to work effectively with team members, farmers, industry representatives, government officials, and the general public. Excellent verbal and written communications skills required in English and valued in Spanish. Must be proficient in the application of computer software. Must possess a valid driver's license, use of a private automobile, and the ability and desire to travel. Because this position requires that you operate a motor vehicle as part of your job duties, successful completion of a motor vehicle records check will be required in addition to standard background checks. This position is an opportunity to join one of the nation's leading extension organizations at a time when it is embarking on an exciting new business model that encourages entrepreneurship and innovation.

**Typical Education and Experience Requirements:**

Typically requires a Master's degree or higher plus two years of related experience, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. This job will be filled as a level 3 or 4 depending upon the successful candidate's competencies, education, and experience.

**Additional Preferred Education, Experience, or Certifications:**

Candidates with a Bachelor's degree and strong work experience may be considered. Preference will be given to candidates who have one or more degrees in animal science, animal science, animal nutrition or related disciplines and work experience with multiple aspects of livestock management.

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