

Career Profile:

Herd Nutritionist

Herd Nutritionists determine feed rations, conduct research and consult farmers regarding feeding practices for their animals. Herd Nutritionists mainly work with Dairy, Beef, Sheep, Goat herds for our co-op

What Responsibilities Will I Have?

- Consider the varied nutritional needs of animals in question and formulate balanced feed rations based on nutritional requirements of the animals
- Assess condition of animals as well as level of activity and physiological demands (productivity, performance, reproductive needs, growth and/or lactation requirements, or need for weight gain or loss) depending on season, temperature, and hair coat
- Utilize computer programs specially created for particular species of type of livestock to formulate best, low-cost rations for a client
- Involvement in research of teaching activities, from conducting work in conjunction with livestock veterinarians, animal health technicians, to working with industry research groups and scientists, such as meat scientists
- Regularly call on and service company clients and customers
- Provide technical training to customers and sales representatives
- Understand and apply the data available to support animal performance enhancement technologies
- Work with feed production team to develop new feed products and ensure highest level of quality of feeds sold and produced for sale
- Build and maintain relationships and influence with others including nutritionists, meat scientists, veterinarians, extension and university personnel, packing plant employees
- Determine the effectiveness of dietary regimes
- Carry out sales and marketing strategies to promote products
- Understand trends in the industry and changes to governmental regulations



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What Education & Training is Needed?

Bachelors Degree in animal science or a masters degree in animal nutrition

What High School Courses Are Recommended...

Agricultural Education, animal science, mathematics, anatomy, biology, chemistry, and computer courses

Typical Employers

Co-ops, depending on the animal species you work with private feed yards, veterinarian, and self employed

Other Titles

Livestock Production Specialist, Dairy Production Specialist, Ruminant Nutritionist

