Herdsman

Goals:

* Assure the best possible health, care and treatment of cattle in the milking herd and provide a comfortable environment resulting in the harvest of the maximum amount of high quality milk
* Maximize reproductive performance of the milking herd
* Support and contribute to the Main Objectives and Goals of Nehls Brothers Farms

Responsibilities:

* Health and wellness of milking cow herd
* Reproductive performance in the milking cow herd

Relationships:

* Reports to Lead Herdsman
* Communicates with Parlor Manager regarding treatment and handling of hospital and dry cows

Specific Goals:

* Accurate identification, diagnosis and appropriate treatment of unhealthy cattle
* Successful implementation of healthy cow procedures (vaccinations, BST administration, dry cow treatments)
* Zero milk or meat residue violations
* Meet or exceed goals regarding death loss, sickness and culling as determined with Dairy Manager

Work Schedule:

Work schedule will be 5-6 days/week, 5 am to 1-5 pm. Weekends and other days off will be on a rotating basis with other Herdsman. Anticipated time commitment is 45-55 hours/week.

Compensation:

Negotiable, based on experience and skill level

Qualifications:

* Experience with sick cow identification, diagnosis and treatment, and healthy cow procedures
* Basic computer knowledge (DairyComp 305, Microsoft Word, Excel)
* High level of accuracy in data entry and recording is essential
* Bilingual in Spanish and English is not necessary, but is helpful

Specific Duties:

* Observe cows for health problems and provide treatment
* Assist with managing reproductive program
* Dry cow treatments and handling
* Monitor and assist with herd management tasks such as vaccinations, treatments and BST supplementation
* Monitor and administer mastitis treatments
* Accurately record treatments
* Maintain healthy and comfortable environment in barns
* Provide proper care and handling of non-ambulatory cows
* Recommend culling decisions
* Coordinate cattle handling and movement, including placement in pens
* Communicate with veterinarian regarding the treatment of sick cows
* Maintain special needs area and herdsman office areas as clean and safe work environments
* Evaluate emergencies and call veterinarian as needed
* Become familiar with other manager’s responsibilities and duties to be able to perform them in their absence
* Perform other duties as required and requested to meet the goals of the dairy

Main Objectives for the Staff of Nehls Brothers Farms

* Maximize milk production and cattle growth to ensure a profitable dairy business.
* Provide a clean, comfortable and safe environment for cattle and people.
* Communicate and cooperate with all areas of the dairy.

Other information:

Nehls Brothers Farms is located in Juneau, WI and consists of a milking herd of 2,000 high producing Holsteins along with 2,000 head of youngstock which are all raised on the dairy.

This is an excellent opportunity for either a beginning herdsman to learn practical, hands-on skills or for a more experienced person to grow their herd management abilities.

Ample opportunities are provided both on and off the dairy to mentor and develop skills. We enjoy a close working relationship with the University of Wisconsin – Madison Dairy Science department and School of Veterinary Medicine, along with industry organizations such the Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin.

Contact:

Jerry Gaska, DVM

Dairy Manager – Nehls Brothers Farms

N5638 County Highway DJ

Juneau, WI 53039

Email: [drjerry@dairyhealthservices.com](mailto:drjerry@dairyhealthservices.com)

Phone: 920-210-2656

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