

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

**Location: Nancy M. Cummings Research, Extension and Education Center
Salmon, ID**

Position Summary

The research associate will assist the superintendent with the conduct of original and collaborative research on forages and reproduction, nutrition and management of beef cow-calf and stocker systems. Principal responsibilities include: managing of the day-to-day operations of cattle experiments, forage test plots, and sample collection/analyses; collaborating with the superintendent/principal investigator to design, develop, and organize research related to the beef and forage systems program; assisting researchers from other locations conducting research at NMCREEC; supervising activities of undergraduate researchers; managing data, using statistical software for data analysis and interpretation; preparing research reports and journal articles; presenting research results at local, regional, and national meetings; preparing grant proposals to fund research; assisting in budget planning; training and supervising interns and graduate students. Minimal travel will be required.

Position Responsibilities:

Assist the principal investigator with research in cow-calf, stocker and forage systems by:

Managing research related to the beef cattle and forage system, including all aspects of experiments and field trials including experimental design, cattle handling, administration of treatments, feeding, reproduction, plot planting, research facility and plot maintenance, pest management, data acquisition, and harvest; applying pesticides or herbicides when necessary to control insects, diseases, and weeds in the field; and supervising one to two graduate students and two to three student interns in the cattle facilities, fields, or laboratory. Communicate proactively with ranch manager about research protocols, cattle working, feed requirements, and equipment needs. These activities will include operating and working near farm machinery, cattle working equipment, driving light trucks, towing trailers, lifting items weighing up to 70 pounds and working with cattle.

Maintain, input, analyze, and disseminate data by:

Maintain and organize research notebooks and databases; maintain appropriate records on animal care and use; input data into Excel, CowSense, and statistical analytical software; perform statistical analyses with assistance of principal investigator and statistician; disseminate data to collaborators, graduate students, and cooperating institutions.

Obtain funding and disseminate research results by:

Writing and assisting the principal in developing grant proposals; preparing progress reports and proposals to funding agencies; coordinating and attending field days; co-authoring scientific journal articles, extension publications, and newsletters with the principal investigator; and developing and giving oral presentations at scientific and growers meetings.

Assist ranch and research operations with other related duties as assigned by:

Assisting superintendent and ranch manager with cattle care during critical times such as calving and weaning; assisting with planting of production scale forage fields; attending statistical and agricultural workshops, courses, and regional and national professional meetings to gain new knowledge and upgrade skills.

Minimum Qualifications:

Education/Experience: M.S. degree in agronomy, animal science or related field.

Good knowledge of: research analysis methods, scientific journal requirements related to research area.

Experience: writing reports, compiling and analyzing data; using analysis software; operating farm machinery

Skills: Good interpersonal skills, demonstrated technical skills, and effective communication skills. Record of research productivity, technical competence, demonstrated skills with computers and/or other instrumentation; and other professional contributions.

Demonstrated ability to: execute complex research projects; establish collaborative and cooperative scientific and professional relationships; assist in identifying and preparing funding proposals.

Preferred Qualifications:

Two (2) or more years of farm or ranch experience.

Experience with: cattle handling and care; farm machinery and forage production; irrigation systems and irrigation management.

Knowledge of: cattle research techniques, plant science field research techniques, basic laboratory equipment operation, and first aid.

Demonstrated skills in supervising students, operation and maintenance of farm equipment driving motor vehicles including the ability to tow and back trailers loaded with equipment, calibration of pesticide application equipment.

Ability to: obtain a pesticide applicator license; work on own initiative, alone, and in small groups; follow project plans to achieve goals of the overall program; work effectively and efficiently with minimal supervision; identify and solve problems; prioritize tasks and manage own and employees' time; effectively supervise students; establish and maintain effective working relationships with coworkers, collaborators, and cooperators; work cooperatively with faculty and staff from other programs.

Physical Requirements & Working Conditions

Applicant will be required to: routinely work with cattle; periodically work in adverse environmental conditions; and/or carry or lift heavy materials in up to 70 lbs; infrequently work with toxic, volatile, and corrosive chemicals or carcinogenic substances; and/or possess or obtain licenses or certifications specific to area of research.

Ability to: work extra hours; and work in dusty, hot, or cold conditions when required.

To Apply:

Submit application, letter of qualification and CV at:

<https://uidaho.peopleadmin.com/postings/4458>

To receive first consideration, please submit all application materials by June 19, 2014. Following initial review of first consideration applicant pool, the position may remain open until position is filled.

Applicants who are selected as final possible candidates must be able to pass a criminal background check.

For Additional Information Contact:

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