Position Summary

The University of Tasmania is building a vision of a place-based University with a mission to enhance the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of Tasmania, and from Tasmania, contribute to the world in areas of distinctive advantage. The University recognises that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ as well as creating a people-centred University that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

We are seeking to appoint an assistant Farm Manager within the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture which is part of The College of Sciences and Engineering.

The Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) delivers world leading research, industry development, extension and education programs with strong links to key stakeholders in industry and through its Joint Venture with the Tasmanian Government. The mission of TIA is to enable Tasmanian food producers and processors to accelerate primary sector productivity while maintaining and improving Tasmania’s land and water quality for future generations.
Situated on approximately 220 hectares of lush green pastures with a herd of 350 milking cows, the TIA Dairy Research Farm (TDRF) has recently been upgraded as part of a $7.8 million joint-investment from the Tasmanian Government and the University of Tasmania to support the future success of TIA’s research farms in the North-West. This investment will underpin a Region of Excellence for applied agriculture research and demonstration to industry. The Livestock Production Centre in TIA is currently focusing on four key research, development and education programs that support the promotion of Tasmania as a global leader in environmentally sustainable and ethical grass-fed livestock production. We work closely with key stakeholders in the generation and transfer of new knowledge and existing best practice directly to livestock producers.

The positions principal responsibility is to assist in the management of the day to day dairy farming operation at the TDRF. Integral to the position is the ability to constructively communicate and interact with the farm manager, management committee, researchers, technical staff, farmers and visitors.

We are an inclusive workplace committed to ‘working from the strength that diversity brings’ reflected in our Statement of Values. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people and are committed to inclusive principles. We celebrate the range of diverse assets that gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, age and life course bring. Applications are encouraged from all sectors of the community. Tell us how we can make this job work for you.

**What You’ll Do**

- Assist in managing the day to day operations of the farm, including but not limited to staff, production, stock and assets.
- Contribute in all aspects of farm reporting requirements. This includes the use of software and data recording to support both farm operations and research activities.
- Support research activities ensuring all infrastructure and supporting equipment are available, operational and well maintained for researchers.
- Assist with building and maintaining a positive team environment that supports farm operations and activities in a respectful manner in line with the UTAS behavioural policy.
- Maintain a high level of WHS awareness to ensure compliance with WHS legislation, policies and procedures. Conduct risk assessments, develop and review safe operating procedures and ensure appropriate training has been provided.
- Actively participate in all aspects of milk harvesting operations, data collection and recording for herd, milk performance, feeding and paddocks, caring for livestock (including feeding, calving and animal health) and general farm labour (including maintaining Laneways, fencing and machinery).
- Make a substantial and sustained contribution to the University in achieving its strategic objectives and fulfilling its operational responsibilities.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

**What We’re Looking For (success criteria)**

- Completion of a diploma or Certificate IV qualification in a relevant field of Agriculture with subsequent relevant experience or an equivalent combination of relevant work experience and education/training.
- Demonstrated knowledge of pasture based dairy production systems and oversight of dairy farm operations such as milk harvesting, caring for livestock (including feeding, calving and animal health) and general farm labour (including maintaining laneways, fencing and machinery).
• Demonstrated experience or knowledge of supporting research, development, education and extension activities within a farm environment.

• A demonstrated, detailed knowledge of and common sense approach to workplace health and safety as it relates to day to day operations of the farm.

• Knowledge of or capability to learn and utilize supporting farm software for data recording and farm operations e.g. farm finances, herd recording, paddock records and feed budgets.

• Demonstrated capacity to work as an effective leader in a team environment with high level communication skills and the ability to maintain a positive workplace culture with a constructive approach toward sound mentoring practices.

• Experience in the operation and basic farm maintenance of equipment and machinery. In line with Safe Work Procedures, the ability to perform demanding physical activities, such as lifting, walking, and handling of materials associated with farm operations.

• High level communication and interpersonal skills including experience and proven ability to communicate effectively with a range of stakeholders, research specialists and organisations.

Other position requirements

• Capability, and if required by law, a license to run, manoeuvre, navigate, and drive vehicles or mechanized equipment, such as forklifts, tractors, passenger vehicles and side by sides in accordance with Safe Work Procedures.

• A current Australian driver’s licence.

University of Tasmania

The University of Tasmania is an institution with an enduring commitment to our state and community, and a strong global outlook. We are committed to enhancing the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of Tasmania. Our Strategic Direction strongly reflects the University community’s voice that our University must be place based but globally connected as well as regionally networked and designed to deliver quality access to higher education for the whole State.

We believe that from our unique position here in Tasmania we can impact the world through the contributions of our staff, students and graduates. We recognise that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ, as well as creating a university that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

Check out more here:

https://www.utas.edu.au/jobs


The intention of this position description is to highlight the most important aspects, rather than to limit the scope or accountabilities of this role. Duties above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position.