



Herd Manager Job Opening

A family owned, registered Jersey farm looking for a qualified Herdperson to manage all aspects of cow health, feeding, breeding, and milking responsibilities.

About the position. Qualified candidates should possess a passion for working with dairy cattle and have experience managing and working on a dairy farm. The Herd Manager has overall responsibilities of maintaining proper herd health and producing the highest quality milk. Candidates oversee AI breeding program and have experience with breeding and record keeping. The Herd Manager is also responsible for managing farm employees and maintaining an efficient work flow and positive work environment.

A 4-year degree or formal education in animal science or dairy management is a plus, but not required. This position does not require any field work responsibilities or equipment maintenance. Work schedules are flexible with other herd staff employees.

Other main responsibilities include:

- maintaining and supervising proper milking procedures
- managing a healthy and well-kept calf nursery by following newborn protocols and managing clean and healthy living conditions
- identifying health incidents like milk fever, edema, mastitis or other health-related issues and perform necessary steps to address it immediately
- prepare for and assist in bi-monthly herd checks with veterinarians
- facilitate breeding program from mating, identifying heats and managing AI
- managing feeding processes: work with nutritionist to maintain health and performance and keep track of feed inventories
- follow and oversee equipment cleaning and sanitation procedures
- maintaining DHIA records and recording all health-related events and vaccinations

- developing working relationships with herd-related professionals like veterinarians, hoof trimmers and nutritionists; be an integral part of a management team that includes the Farm Operations Manager, and Plant Manager.
- supervising assistant herd manager and managing herd staff of 3, manage work schedules
- report to and communicate with farm owners on a weekly basis or as-needed throughout the week

Desired Qualifications. Proven leadership and communication skills and the ability to manage and work as a team. Experience working and managing a dairy farm and attending to a cow's medical needs. All breeding experience is highly desired. The ability to lift at least 60 pounds and operate farm machinery like tractors, skid steers and mixing wagons. Represent the farm in a professional and courtesy manner around public tours and invited guests. Treat all the animals calmly and with respect.

About the farm. Mapleline Farm was established in 1904, is a women-owned business and has been in the same family for 5 generations. The milking herd is about 115 head. Cows are housed in a free stall facility and milking parlor is a double 7. The farm is active members of the American Jersey Cattle Association and all heifers born are registered accordingly.

All of the milk produced by the herd is processed and bottled on-site under the farm's label. The farm also manages a wholesale distribution service. Cow care and comfort, a clean and healthy environment and proper nutrition are all crucial to producing quality milk and will be a top priority for this position. Efficient work flows are also emphasized for maintaining high producing cattle, but also for quality of life for the farm workers.

Mapleline Farm is located in Hadley, MA in a 5 college town area. This is a salaried position with health insurance and matching retirement plan; housing can be provided. Compensation commensurate with experience.

To apply, please send resume to:

jdizek@maplelinefarm.com and write: *Herd Manager* in Subject Line. Please visit our website at: www.maplelinefarm.com to learn more about the operation.