



Dairy Farm Worker

JOB DESCRIPTION

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Dairy Farm Worker at the Kingshay managed South West Dairy Development Centre, Beard Hill Farm, Pylle, Shepton Mallet BA4 6SS.

The state-of-the-art dairy research and development centre has been built with funding from Innovate UK, via The Agri-EPI Centre and is managed by Kingshay, using the latest technology to optimise animal welfare and sustainable milk production. The 180-cow seasonal calving herd are milked through three GEA Monobox Robots, fed using an automated indoor feeding system, combined with a focus on effective use of grazing. Several technologies are used to monitor cow health and performance.

Kingshay are independent consultants who specialise in providing independent advice and technical services to farmers and the wider agricultural livestock industry, throughout the UK. We are part of the [vetPartners](#) group and at the dairy unit work closely with the local vet team to ensure high herd health, demonstrating best practice. Further details can be found at www.kingshay.com.

Preferred applicants will:

- Be competent carrying out all mainstream dairy tasks including calving, cow management and maintaining a hygienic environment at all times.
- Be competent operating machinery including a telehandler and tractor mowing.
- Preferable have telehandler and ATV operator competency certificates (training can be provided).
- Have a full UK driving licence.
- Be organised and tidy, applying a high level of attention to detail to required tasks.
- Have good communication skills, with a willingness to help others.
- Be able to work unsupervised.
- Be computer literate.
- Having a relevant agricultural qualification would be preferred.

Outline of Main Responsibilities:

The exact detail of the role will be adapted to the skills of the successful individual, with training provided as appropriate. Key responsibilities include:

1. Day-to-day herd routines

Working within a team of three, you will have a key role in ensuring the efficient running of the dairy unit to meet set targets, supporting our Herd Manager and Herdsperson. Tasks will include maintaining the flow of cows through the milking system, bedding up & ensuring good cubicle hygiene, maintaining the cleanliness of the robotic milking equipment, plus assisting with cow handling and general husbandry tasks. A key part of the role will be ensuring accurate records are maintained.



2. Feed bunker and silage store

Responsibility for the smooth operation of the automated feeding system, including using the telehandler to fill the silage bunkers, ensuring excellent clamp management and tidiness throughout.

3. Grazing System

Through the grazing season the role will include supporting the cow management within the paddock grazing system. Specific tasks will include fetching cows as required, pre-mowing grass, moving electric fences and maintaining fences & water supply.

4. General Duties

Within a small team all members are expected to assist on various tasks to allow the operation of successful the dairy unit. This will include keeping the unit fit for presentation to visitors at all times.

Job Details:

Place of work

The job holder will be based at the South West Dairy Development Centre, Beard Hill Farm, Pylle, Shepton Mallet BA4 6SS.

Reporting

You will report to the Dairy Centre Herd Manager.

Hours of Work

The shift pattern will be based around a 5-day week, with a requirement to work weekends / public holidays if they fit into your shift. The pattern of working hours can be tailored to suit the individual providing this fits with others in the team.

The working hours will reflect the lifestyle benefits that an automated robotic system can offer, however flexibility is required within busy periods.

Holidays

An annual leave allowance of 28 days including Bank Holidays is offered.

Training

We encourage and support the development of new skills and abilities. A training programme will be tailored to the individual's needs to fulfil the role.

Salary

A competitive salary is offered appropriate to the calibre and experience of the person we seek.

A company pension scheme is available, and the company offers both a childcare voucher scheme and cycle scheme.

Medical

Appointment is subject to a pre-employment health check.

Other Benefits

You will also be entitled an on-line employee support and rewards benefits scheme, plus discounted animal healthcare.

