



**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES**

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Ph.D. Student Opportunity

Department: Dairy Science / University of Wisconsin-Madison
Location: Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
Position Title: Research Assistant (Ph.D. Student Assistantship)
Start Date: 3 August 2009
Duration: 3-year minimum
Work continuation: Post Doctoral Research Associate possible upon funding availability

Area of Interest:

Comparative analysis of conventional grazing and organic production systems. The incumbent will have the unique opportunity to work directly with a team of researchers, extension agents and Wisconsin dairy producers to collect and analyze data related to herd management. This project was recently funded by the US Department of Agriculture Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative Program to study the strategies of pasture supplementation to assess economic, production and environmental outcomes of organic and conventional grazing dairies.

Qualifications:

Required experience and/or exposure to dairy grazing and/or organic systems and willingness to visit, perform on-farm research and interact with farmers on a regular basis. Capacity to synthesize dairy farm information into dynamic databases to estimate economic, production, and environmental indices and create benchmark tools. Demonstrated ability to write technical reports and manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals. Desired medium to high level of statistics. Preferred medium to high computer skills. Code writing and computer simulation considered a plus.

Duties:

Under the supervision and support of faculty participating in project, Ph.D. student should be able to: develop, test and administer a survey to 100 dairy producers, develop user-friendly spreadsheets to compare productive, economic, and environmental indices of participating dairies, present results at professional meetings and publish research results in peer reviewed journals.

Application:

Submit letter of interest and copy of transcripts to:
Victor E. Cabrera, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist in Dairy
Management.
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dairy Science
Department.
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