

POSITION DESCRIPTION



Position	Farms Officer
Level/Classification	HEW0404
Reports to	Farms Manager
Unit	Veterinary Medicine
Directorate	School of Veterinary Medicine
Positions Supervised	Nil

Position Purpose

The key purpose of this role is to provide high-quality care and safe handling of animals at the farms managed by Murdoch University. The Farms Officer will complete tasks associated with daily feeding, watering, moving livestock, cleaning, and farm maintenance along with training and supervising work experience students and keeping accurate records of all farm operations, such as livestock movements, chemical spraying, super spreading, seeding and hay making schedules, pest and diseases, and management history. As a Farms Officer, you use a variety of hand tools and machinery to complete your tasks.

About Murdoch University

Murdoch University is a young and dynamic university with a foundational commitment to the environment, social justice and inclusion, and making education accessible to more people. Founded as Western Australia's second university in 1974, today, Murdoch has more than 21,000 students and 1,700 staff across campuses in Perth, Singapore and Dubai. With more than 90,000 Alumni, Murdoch graduates can be found all over the world, making a positive difference.

Our Strategy – Ngala Kwop Bididi. Building a brighter future, together – guides the University's direction and reaffirms our shared purpose to change lives and society for the better through accessible education and research.

The Strategy is focused on three key themes:

- Sustainability: Be a leading university in education, teaching and translational research in sustainability.
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Build a welcoming, diverse and inclusive community.
- First Nations: Become the University of first choice for First Nations peoples.

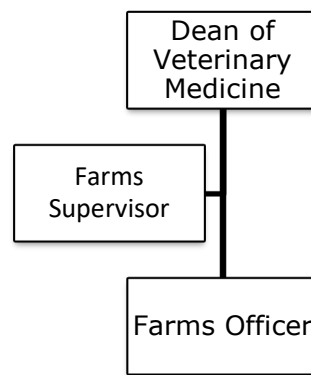
Murdoch is also committed to building engagement with our local community, State, nation, and global society with a track-record in creating strong partnerships with business, government and industry.

About the Work Area

Murdoch University is home to the only Veterinary School in Western Australia, and its prestigious teaching farms provides the opportunity that enables students to have the 'hands-on' approach to learning and research.

Reporting Relationships

(Use diagram to describe the position's reporting relationships. Please note bullet points or names should not appear.)



Key Responsibilities/Duties

1. Complete tasks associated with animal welfare, feeding, shearing, and cleaning (observe livestock for signs of illnesses or health issues) and report any unusual observations immediately to the Farm Manager.
2. Perform tasks such as backlining, drenching, vaccination, tagging, castrating, tail docking, condition scoring, weighing and scanning/NLIS scanning, health checks/treatments, classing/drafting (by sex, weight, age, type, class for market specification).
3. Perform mustering, drafting, trucking, loading/unloading livestock (fit for loading) using low stress handling skills.
4. Operate and maintain farm machinery – various tractors, quadbikes, mower, forklift, trucks, hay baling equipment, seeding equipment, and spraying equipment.
5. Conduct cleaning and daily maintenance of the farm areas including pens, cages, runs, and other areas as directed.
6. Undertake fencing and yard building (installation and maintenance electrical and general fences, as well as repairing and installing yards).
7. Assist with the movement of animals within/outside the farm area.
8. Maintain appropriate records as requested and an up to date knowledge of current safety requirements across the farm (including farm biosecurity assessing, preventing and procedures).

9. Adjust and repair farm machinery and notify manager in the event of a malfunction.
10. Conduct animal breeding (natural/A.I-ing) and raising procedures using industry standards and monthly stock takes as required.
11. Clear away and clean animal waste/bedding and clean/sterilize farm equipment.
12. Attend to farms maintenance requirements.
13. Comply with University policies, procedures, and protocols. Comply industry related Acts and Regulations and maintain up to date knowledge of current safety requirements across the farm.
14. Complete chemical spraying, super spreading seeding and hay making schedules. Maintain appropriate records as requested and undertake monthly stock takes as required.
15. Perform other duties as requested and required across all areas of the farms.

Selection Criteria

Essential

1. Completion of Year 12 or Certificate III with a minimum 5 years farm experience.
2. Experience in processing livestock, shearing, welding (Mig, Tig, ARC and Oxy), chainsaw, mower, whipper snippers and other small machinery handling knowledge and maintenance (chainsaw Ticket required or ability to obtain one).
3. Experience in animal welfare, feeding and cleaning (observe livestock for signs of illnesses or health issues) and report any unusual observations immediately to the Farms Manager.
4. Have a valid forklift ticket and HR licence or ability to obtain one.
5. Experience and understanding OH&S guidelines / JSA's / SOP's as well as using personal protection and safety equipment as required by the employer, following safe work procedures, knowing, and complying with all regulations, reporting any injury or illness immediately to the supervisor or manager.
6. Ability to understand, educate, assess, and prevent spread in relation to farm biosecurity procedures.
7. Ability to maintain accurate records (livestock/cropping) for relevant areas across Murdoch farms.
8. Organisational, time and workload management skills, including the ability to prioritise workload to meet deadlines.
9. Effective communication and interpersonal skills, and the demonstrated ability to interact constructively and collaboratively with others.
10. Ability to work unsupervised and in a team environment.
11. Knowledge and ability to use basic power tools and mechanical aptitude.
12. Ability to keep operational areas clean and maintained (helps to improve occupational health and safety, but also to increase efficiency) and to maintain an Inventory of tools.

Desirable

1. First Aid certificate
2. Farm equipment tickets
3. Welding experience (Mig, Tig, ARC and Oxy)

4. Experience in chemical handling, spraying, DFES (burning) and record keeping for weed control (ticket required)
5. Experience in tasks such as Seeding and cropping/pasture with agronomist knowledge/experience

Work Requirements

1. The ability to work between different University properties.
2. Australian permanent residency or possession of a valid visa with work entitlement in Australia.
3. Ability to work outside of normal office hours when required including weekend work.
4. Be able to provide evidence of appropriate vaccination or immunity in accordance with the University's Immunisation Policy.

General Obligations

While at work, an employee must:

- take reasonable care for their own health and safety and ensure that their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons;
- report incidents, injuries and hazards;
- comply with any reasonable instruction that is given by Murdoch University; and
- comply with Murdoch University policies and procedures.

Guiding Principles and Values/Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct

Our Values

- Authenticity
- Integrity
- Respect
- Inclusivity
- Openness

Our Principles

- Act with justice, respect and responsible care.
- Be collegiate and respectful of other points of view.
- Protect academic freedom.
- Be agile, flexible and resilient.
- Make decisions at the most appropriate level.
- Be transparent in decision-making and with information.
- Adopt common approaches to common tasks.
- Be careful stewards of our resources.

All staff will comply with the University's Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and demonstrate a commitment to its Equity, Diversity and Safety principles and the general capabilities of personal effectiveness, working collaboratively and demonstrating a focus on results.

All Staff complete a Development Review Annually. A Commencing Development Review should be completed within 3 months of commencement.

We acknowledge that Murdoch University is situated on the lands of the Whadjuk and Binjareb Noongar people. We pay our respects to their enduring and dynamic culture and the leadership of Noongar elders past and present. The boodjar (country) on which Murdoch University is located has, for thousands of years, been a place of learning. We at Murdoch University are proud to continue this long tradition.