

Research Program Officer – Livestock Production and Animal Health

IS THIS JOB FOR YOU?

- You are passionate about animal health and agriculture with a keen interest in developing relationships within Alberta's agriculture stakeholders;
- You have a discriminating eye for projects that will have a direct positive impact on Alberta's agriculture;
- You have a good understanding of Alberta's livestock producers' needs (priority towards the area of animal health and livestock production), with an appreciation for the science needed to meet those needs;
- You want to work in a team excited to build the industry by powering research.

ABOUT US

Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR is a producer-led research organization with the mandate to guide Alberta's agriculture research priorities to ensure they reflect the needs of farmers, ranchers, and others in the agriculture industry.

RDAR is a non-profit organization operating at arm's length from the Alberta government. Established in 2020, RDAR manages >\$37M investments in Alberta agricultural research, with a portfolio valued at >\$120M. We are recognized as one of Canada's leading agricultural investors and coordinators of transdisciplinary, producer, private, and public sector partnerships.

JOB SUMMARY

The Research Program Officer is responsible for providing scientific expertise to RDAR's research grant programs and helping RDAR achieve its mandate and goals. Within this role, the Research Program Officer ensures the ongoing engagement with Alberta's research community in delivering results-driven agriculture investments, resolving issues, and embracing opportunities for Alberta's livestock and crop sectors.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Evaluating research proposals and providing funding recommendations centred on sound science and the ability to deliver practical, measured, and timely outcomes for Alberta's producers.
- Liaising with researchers and ensuring research projects are outcome-based and delivered using sound science aligned with RDAR's policies.
- Providing scientific and technical rigour to RDAR's investments by contributing expertise and understanding of research methodologies and ensuring that the experiment design and techniques are appropriate for achieving the intended results.
- Engaging with the research staff of partnering funders (marketing boards, commissions, associations, and producers) to facilitate collaboration and understand the priorities of farmers and ranchers in Alberta and across commodity or production systems.
- Reviewing research reports to monitor progress and ensure client delivery on commitments. Identifies successful research outcomes and contributes to RDAR's activities and communications advancing innovation.
- Compiling and managing data on program evaluation and performance measures.
- Providing specialized knowledge about leading-edge research and networks to identify new opportunities in research to solve issues facing Alberta's livestock and crop sectors and advances a one-health approach to RDAR's research investments.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree or Ph.D. in a related science field (e.g., animal science, animal health, veterinary medicine, microbiology, genomics);
Individuals without graduate degrees may be considered if they have extensive relevant scientific experience;
- Minimum five (5) years of research experience and research funding experience;
- Expert technical and analytical skills;
- Superior written and verbal communication skills;
- Proven ability to develop credible relationships with diverse interest groups;
- Ability to adapt information and terminology to meet stakeholder needs and understanding;
- Self-motivated, energetic, and enthusiastic;
- Ability to plan, lead and keep projects on track;
- Ability to coach and mentor diverse and interdisciplinary teams to work towards a common goal;
- Preference will be given to candidates with knowledge and expertise in all or some of the following areas:
 - Research methodologies and their specific applications;
 - Alberta's livestock and industry issues;
 - Technology Readiness Level (TRL) assessment;
 - Project management and project life cycle management;
 - Stakeholder engagement, including farmers, ranchers, packers, processors, academics, and applied research scientists.

POSITION DETAILS

- Permanent, full-time position
- 37.5 hours / week, five (5) days / week
- Office location at 250 Karl Clark Road in South Edmonton
- Flexible working arrangement – virtual or hybrid option available
- Competitive salary and benefits package. Salary to be set based on experience
- Some travel is required—a Valid Class 5 Driver's License

Submit your application to HR@rdar.ca.

This competition will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.