

Pasture-Based Dairy Research Internship
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

POSITION: Pasture-Based Dairy Research Intern – Cow Health & Behavior

The research dairy is a pasture-based dairy with robotic milking. The dairy herd, consisting of about 100 lactating dairy cows plus dry cows and heifers, is rotationally grazed from spring through fall. Robotic milking systems allow cows to be milked voluntarily any time of the day with limited human involvement, reducing stress on the cow and allowing greater flexibility for the dairy producer.

This position would be part of a study examining the interaction of milking frequency and pasture-based nutrition on the health, metabolism and behavior of dairy cows in the period surrounding parturition.

LOCATION: Michigan State University – (Kellogg Biological Station, Hickory Corners, MI)

DURATION: Summer internship from May to August.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Moving and handling dairy cattle
Assisting with collection of milk samples
Collection and analysis of animal behavior and production data

QUALIFICATIONS: Livestock/dairy handling experience
Experience collecting and handling blood samples is preferred
Attention to detail and ability to work unsupervised is necessary
Ability to work with computer-based data collection programs

STIPEND: \$250/week

HOUSING: Student responsible for own housing (If interested in staying at KBS, there is housing that can be rented from the station.)

CONTACT: Dr. Elizabeth Karcher
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APPLICATION DEADLINE: To apply, send resume and cover letter to the above address by February 1, 2012. Indicate that you are interested in the KBS Pasture Internship.