



2021 Summer Internship Opportunity Replacement Heifer Rearing Program

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Background

Replacement rearing is the second largest cost of producing milk, but it is also frequently the most overlooked area on the farm. Performance measurements are often not performed because they are labor intensive; requires book keeping, record analysis and the physical handling of the cattle for the weight and height measurements.

Goal

To assess the efficiency of the replacement rearing programs on our region's dairy farms.

Program Details

A 12-14 week paid internship during the summer of 2021. The internship will be based from Witmer's Feed & Grain, Inc. in Columbiana, Ohio. There will be significant travel to dairy farms throughout Eastern Ohio, Western Pennsylvania and Southern New York, some may require over night stays. Throughout the summer various Industry related topics will be discussed and presented.

Responsibilities

Data Collection

- Gathering weight and height measurements on the heifers from birth to breeding.
- Gathering financial information to assess the costs for raising replacement females.
- Gathering various data to evaluate housing situations, bedding, feed storage and more.

Genomic Testing

- Sampling heifers for testing.

Data Analysis

- Data entry and manipulation using Excel Spreadsheets
- Customized Dairy Heifer Growth Charts.

Final Presentation

- Pulling together data from throughout the program to make a final presentation of results.

Qualifications

Looking for 4-5 highly motivated collegiate students in the Agricultural field of study. Hands- on experience with large animals is strongly recommended. Reliable transportation is needed.

For more information or questions please contact Shelby Hull: 234-855-2011 or shull@witmersfeed.com