University of Vermont | College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Animal and
Veterinary Sciences

Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunity - Investigating nurse cow-calf rearing on dairy farms

We are recruiting a postdoctoral fellow to investigate the welfare of dairy cows and calves in nurse cow-calf rearing systems on commercial dairy farms. The candidate will be housed in the Animal and Veterinary Sciences Department at the University of Vermont, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in Burlington, Vermont, USA, and supervised by Dr. Kate Creutzinger.

The successful candidate will lead projects on animal-based outcomes and their management risk factors in nurse cow-calf contact systems. Activities will include farm recruitment, development of assessments, data collection, data management, data analysis, manuscript preparation, and presentation of results. The postdoctoral fellow will also be expected to collaborate with other students and scientists. There will also be the opportunity for the postdoctoral fellow to participate in grant writing and engage in applied ethology and other applied animal research, depending on their interests.

Qualifications:

- A PhD in a relevant field such as animal science, animal behavior, epidemiology, or veterinary sciences,
- A United States driver's license or the willingness and ability to obtain one,
- Interest or experience engaging with livestock industry stakeholders,
- Excellent scientific analytical and writing skills,
- International applicants are welcome but must demonstrate English proficiency.

Funding:

This position is funded for one year, with the possibility to extend depending on funding availability. The minimum annual salary for the full-time, 12-month appointment will be $61,000 and based on experience, plus health insurance.

Application process and timeline:

1. Initial application: Please email the following materials to Dr. Kate Creutzinger at kate.creutzinger@uvm.edu: 1) cover letter describing your research background, interests, and alignment with this opportunity, 2) current CV, and 3) contact information for three references. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.
2. Interview: Selected applicants will have an online interview with Dr. Creutzinger to discuss research interests and program fit.
3. Start date: The successful candidate can start as early as 30 days after the offer is extended and accepted. Ideal start date is Summer 2026.