Internship / Master thesis (4-6 months)

Does early maternal separation affect goat behaviour & welfare?

The Institute of Animal Welfare Science of the Vetmeduni Vienna offers an internship (between 4 and 6 months) under the supervision of Prof. Jean-Loup Rault.

Description: In most dairy goat farms, kids are separated from the dam right after birth and are reared with individuals of the same age. This practice potentially affects the kids’ social development, behaviour and welfare. Thus, we investigate whether goats raised without their dams are as good at dealing with challenging situations as goats that were raised with their dam. We will conduct behavioural tests and human-animal relationship tests. The project involves on-farm data collection and experimentation during spring 2020 as well as video analysis. The experiments will be held on a dairy goat farm situated in Bad Zell (4283, Austria). German language abilities are helpful but not necessary. This internship is unfortunately not remunerated.

Period: From March 2020

Requirements: High motivation and flexibility, reliability and accuracy in data acquisition, capacity for teamwork, preferably possession of a car or a driving license.

Please apply by sending a CV and a short letter of motivation to:

Dipl. Ing. Claire Toinon
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Vienna, 15/01/2020