



Broiler chicken welfare on commercial farms: potential benefits of platform perches

The Jacobs' lab is looking for applicants for a PhD position focusing on broiler chicken welfare. For this project, we are testing the potential welfare and productivity benefits associated with access to platform perches on large-scale commercial farms. The candidate will be involved in all aspects of the project including experimental design, project coordination, data analysis, presentations at conferences, and publishing peer-reviewed journal articles.

The student will be based in Blacksburg, Virginia, USA.

The PhD program is funded for a three-year period, though there is a possibility for extension into a fourth year.

The project is aimed to start in January 2025.

Characteristics that will be considered when reviewing applications include:

- MSc degree in animal or poultry science or relevant discipline
- Demonstrated experience in research including analysis, presentation of research findings, and development of concepts
- Proficiency of spoken and written English
- Driver's license

To apply, please send a 1-2 page cover letter describing your background and interest in the position, and a CV detailing your education and research experience to Dr. Jacobs at jacobsL@vt.edu.

Virginia Tech will require a formal application to the Graduate School. Interested candidates are recommended to wait with a formal application until Dr. Jacobs has reached out to the applicant directly. For more information, see: <https://graduateschool.vt.edu/admissions/how-to-apply.html>