



Job Posting May 2026 Herdsman (Annual Bull/Heifer Test)

Location: Maritime Beef Test Station, 4133 Hwy 302, Nappan, NS B0L 1C0

Employment Type: Seasonal (October – April, annually)

Reports To: Board of Directors

Position Summary

The Herdsman is responsible for the daily management and care of bulls and heifers participating in the annual performance test. This role requires strong animal-handling skills, attention to detail in data management, ability to work independently and effective communication with the Board of Directors, staff, veterinarians, consignors, and technical partners. The position ensures that all animals are properly cared for, test procedures are completed accurately, and the facility operates smoothly from animal arrival to sale day.

Key Responsibilities

Animal Management & Health Care

- Handle and manage cattle safely and efficiently throughout the test period (October–April).
- Monitor animal health and behavior daily; identify and address signs of illness or injury.
- Administer vaccinations at arrival and collect additional samples as needed on arrival and during the test.
- Treat sick animals directly when appropriate and coordinate veterinary intervention when required.
- Move cattle through the handling facility for weighing, data collection, and other testing activities.

Data & Performance Monitoring

- Monitor and manage performance data using the Vytelle GrowSafe system.
- Coordinate with technical support to troubleshoot and maintain system functionality.
- Record and verify weights, feed intakes, and performance metrics accurately.
- Coordinate bull selection procedures and other necessary performance evaluations.

Staff Supervision & Coordination

- Oversee barn staff and schedule additional help for weigh days, testing, or sale day as needed.
- Ensure all staff follow safe and effective livestock handling practices.
- Provide training or guidance as needed to maintain consistent operations.

Facility & Equipment Maintenance

- Maintain cleanliness, organization, and functionality of barns, pens, and equipment.
- Perform or coordinate minor repairs and regular maintenance on facilities and equipment.

Consignor Relations & Board Communication

- Communicate with consignors regarding animal arrivals, performance updates, and selection outcomes.
- Address consignor questions and concerns promptly and professionally.
- Report significant issues, health concerns, or selection disputes to the board.

Sale Preparation & Wrap-Up

- Prepare facilities, animals, and staff for sale day, ensuring proper presentation and operation.
- Oversee cleanup and organization of facilities following the sale and departure of animals.

Qualifications

- Knowledge of purebred/seedstock sector required.
- Experience in cattle management, performance testing, or feedlot operations required.
- Knowledge of animal health, nutrition, and vaccination protocols.
- Familiarity with data systems such as GrowSafe or similar performance monitoring tools preferred.
- Strong organizational, leadership, and communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and manage seasonal staff.
- Must be able to lift 50 lbs and work outdoors in varying weather conditions.

Application Process

Please submit your cover letter and your resume, demonstrating you meet the qualifications, to Kara Chisholm at director@agricommodity.ca

Application Closing date: June 1, 2026