

New Zealand Farm Position



Who are we?

Mitchell Agriculture Ltd. is a share milking business currently located in Southland, New Zealand. The business is owned and run by Danny Mitchell, a New Zealander, and Abby Nunes, an American from Virginia. Since beginning in the industry 7 years ago, Danny has worked his way up through the kiwi-dairy system. Abby studied dairy science at Virginia Tech before setting off to NZ. We are currently in the process of transitioning to a 1300 cow 600-hectare Dairy farm. The farm includes a range of modern technology including two 850 cow wintering barns and an 80-bale rotary milking parlor. The farm is owned by New Zealand Superannuation Fund, as one of many investments in the rural holding's portfolio.

We are looking to build a team for the 2019/2020 season and have several seasonal positions available. These positions run from late July through May. However, there will be one position available from late July through December. The season ends when the grass stops growing, and the cows get dried off. Usually this is in May, but every season is different.

Job Description.

Through the winter (June - August) the cows will be in the free stall barns on a 100% grass silage diet. Calving begins August 1st and we will draft springers out intermittently and put them on pasture for the rest of the season. We will run a 6-person team. Calving begins 1st August and will be all hands-on deck and we will operate a 6 days on, 1 day off roster. You would be milking 3 of your 6 days on and doing other farm jobs the other three. During this period, we will provide dinner 5 nights a week. During the rest of the season we will run a 7 days on, 2 days off, 7 days on, 2 days off, 7 days on, 3 days off roster. During this roster each person will milk four of their seven days on. We will run a rotation that will allow every person to learn every job. Our goal throughout the season is to teach each of our staff principles of low input dairy farming, and the fundamentals of agribusiness management.

What is in it for me?

The salary is \$1,661.50 NZD per fortnight, as well as 1.75 days of paid holiday accrued per fortnight.

Farm accommodation is a tidy cottage on farm shared with other farm staff. Red meat and milk are provided but you will have to pay for power, internet, and \$100 NZD/week rent. We will provide you with coveralls, gumboots, rain gear, and milking gear.

Where are we?

The farm is located just outside of Mossburn, a small town of about 200 people in the most southern region of New Zealand. Mossburn is an hour and half from Queenstown, two hours from Fiordland, and an hour from Invercargill. So, there is heaps to do and see on days off.

What next?

Although some farm experience would be ideal, we find that the best people for the job are those with the best attitude. So, if you're willing to work hard and learn, we would love to have you!

If you have any questions or would like to apply give us a shout!

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