

Class Concept

Work in this class involves the inspection of livestock and/or poultry for conformance to the rules, laws, and regulations of the State of North Carolina as well as compliance with state and federal disease programs. Employees schedule and conduct inspections of markets, auctions, and farms to ensure proper identification of livestock and poultry for movement, proper sanitation, proper record keeping, and lawful disposal of dead livestock and poultry. Employees perform work related to the detection, control, surveillance, and eradication of livestock and poultry diseases. Responsibilities include issuance of quarantine orders and shipping permits and tracing of diseased livestock and poultry back to the farm of origin. Emergency response responsibilities include humane euthanasia and animal rescue techniques as well as the Incident Command System. Employees may be called upon to oversee proper carcass disposal following natural disasters. Work may include other duties as assigned.

Recruitment Standards

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Considerable knowledge of State and Federal regulations pertaining to the control and eradication of livestock/poultry diseases.
- Knowledge of the principles of animal production such as breeding, testing, culling, and marketing; Knowledge of nutrition, soils, and forages related to animal production.
- Knowledge of animal husbandry; and knowledge of the basic principles regarding the spread of contagious disease regarding livestock and/or poultry.
- Ability to detect signs and symptoms of diseases in livestock and/or poultry.
- Ability to instruct livestock and/or poultry owners and market operators in the proper methods of sanitation and management as means of preventing the occurrence of disease.
- Ability to operate equipment used by Animal Health Technicians such as animal restraining devices, animal identification instruments, tissue sampling equipment; euthanasia equipment, laboratory diagnostic equipment, and related devices.
- Ability to read, understand, and interpret applicable laws, administrative codes, regulations, and policies; Ability to communicate verbally and in writing with a variety of groups in a variety of settings.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with livestock and/or poultry owners, buyers, market operators and State and Federal officials.
- Ability to complete required records and reports.

Minimum Education and Experience

High school or General Educational Development (GED) diploma and three years of experience in the production, husbandry, management, regulation, or sale of livestock or poultry; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.