

VETERINARIAN

NATURE OF WORK:

This is diagnostic and regulatory veterinary work in the control and eradication of contagious and infectious diseases in livestock, poultry, and swine or those communicable to man through an animal host.

Employees serve flock and herd owners by diagnosing and prescribing treatment for a variety of animal diseases and disorders to prevent further infection and loss, or work with local health departments in implementing a communicable disease program. Considerable skill is required in the post-mortem examination of tissues and organs of diseased animals, and decisions as to the nature of infection, cause, and remedy for the cases referred to them are final. Considerable contact with producers, processors, and the general public is required in order to explain the methods of preventive veterinary medicine as related to proper herd or flock management and the detection and elimination of health hazards. Work is reviewed through periodic discussions relating to the general effectiveness of the veterinary program.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

Performs clinical and post-mortem examinations in the field on livestock and poultry; diagnoses the infection or disorders and determines the proper management practices or medical treatment required to eliminate the malady.

Works with local health departments in organizing and carrying out a program to control such diseases as rabies, brucellosis, equine encephalitis, tuberculosis, and other animal diseases which can be transmitted to man.

Performs necropsies on livestock, swine, and poultry in a departmental laboratory; submits pathological specimens to technicians for laboratory analysis based upon case history and suspected disorders; determines cause of death from results of laboratory tests and prescribes treatments to prevent future loss of animals.

Examines cattle for a variety of infectious diseases including hoof and mouth disease, anthrax, tuberculosis, brucellosis, and leptospirosis.

Examines swine for evidence of vesicular diseases, hog cholera, tuberculosis, brucellosis, and other diseases.

Participates in the prosecution of violators of federal and state livestock and poultry laws.

Serves local health departments in organizing and maintaining enforcement of rabies control laws.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Considerable knowledge of the principles and techniques of veterinary medicine.

Considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of proper livestock, poultry, and swine management.

Skill in the clinical and post-mortem examination of specimens of livestock and poultry.

Ability to diagnose a variety of animal and poultry diseases and to prescribe medical treatment or management methods which will control or eradicate the causant organism.

Ability to apply state and federal laws pertaining to a public health veterinary program.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with livestock and poultry producers, market operators, local health departments and the general public.

ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

Licensed or eligible for licensure to practice veterinary medicine in the State of North Carolina.

Special Note – This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA. Examples of work are primarily essential functions of the majority of positions in this class, but may not be applicable to all positions.