Job Title: Research Associate/ Research Fellow

School/Department: School of Veterinary Medicine and Science

Job Family and Level: Research & Teaching Level 4

Contract Status: Fixed-term

Hours of Work: Full-time (36.25 hours)

Reporting to: Dr Jasmeet Kaler

Location: Sutton Bonington Campus

Project: SPILaMM - Sheep Performance Improvement through Lameness Monitoring and Management

Main duties and responsibilities:

1. Quantitative and qualitative analysis of the data collected from sheep farms on lameness, environment, production and farmer attitudes

2. Take the lead on the writing of peer reviewed journal articles of high quality, generate project reports, and present conference papers at national and/or international conferences and stakeholder meetings

3. Carry out literature reviews of areas relevant to the project

4. To support the research technician and post graduate students in the team

5. Operate as an effective team member and communicate with other project members to ensure timely delivery of outcomes according to the project work plan, attend meetings

6. Any other relevant work suitable to the grade

Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience:

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<th>Qualifications/Education</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<td></td>
<td>• PhD (or near submission), in veterinary epidemiology, animal science or related quantitative field</td>
<td>• An undergraduate or masters degree in veterinary science/agriculture/animal science/statistics or other relevant degree</td>
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<th>Skills/Training</th>
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<td>• Sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge of quantitative research methods and techniques</td>
<td>• Experience of handling large datasets</td>
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<td>• Evidence of publications in high quality peer reviewed journals in the relevant area</td>
<td>• Good Programming skills</td>
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<td>• Excellent statistical skills and formal training in applied statistics or statistics of epidemiology</td>
<td>• Understanding of qualitative data analysis</td>
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<td>Experience</td>
<td>Personal Attributes</td>
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| - Good IT skills and experience working with statistical packages  
- Good knowledge working with databases | - Ability to work independently and as part of a team on research programmes  
- Excellent written and verbal communication and presentation skills  
- Ability to work in a multidisciplinary team |
| - Research or other experience working with veterinarians/scientists/clinicians/other professionals/farming community | - Ability or potential to contribute to the development of funding proposals in order to generate external funding to support research projects  
- Interest in infectious diseases in livestock and precision farming |

Due to the requirements of the UK Border and Immigration Agency, applicants who are not UK or EEA nationals and whose immigration status entitles them to work without restriction in the UK will be considered on an equal basis with UK and EEA nationals. Other non-UK or non-EEA nationals whose employment will require permission to work subject to a resident labour market test may only be considered if there are no suitable UK or EEA national candidates for the post. Please visit [http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/) for more information.

Because of the nature of the work for which you are applying, this post is exempted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975.

Candidates are therefore, not entitled to withhold information about convictions, which for other purposes are “spent” under the provisions of the Act, and in the event of employment any failure to disclose such convictions could result in dismissal or disciplinary action by the University. Any information given will be strictly confidential and will be considered only in relation to an application for positions to which the Order applies.

Informal inquiries may be addressed to jasmeet.kaler@nottingham.ac.uk - Please note that applications sent directly to this email address will not be accepted.

**Project Summary:**
This project is funded by Innovate UK and involves an academic and industry consortium with industry partners as Dunbia and Farm Wizard and University of Nottingham as academic lead. The project seeks to address the challenge of sheep lameness, a predominant cause of both poor productive and reproductive performance causing a reduction in product value to the farmer, processor, retailer and consumer. By researching the environmental and other contributing factors and assessing the effectiveness of the lameness data collection and feedback systems (using innovative hardware and software systems developed as part of this project) in facilitating a targeted risk based control strategy, our consortium intends to reduce lameness, improve production and welfare on farms.

**The Post:**
The main duty of this post will be to undertake statistical modelling of longitudinally collected data (lameness, other health and production parameters) on farms that are part of a trial in testing effectiveness and usefulness of newly developed innovative system (hardware and software) for data collection.

The successful candidate will join a vibrant and expanding group of researchers in sheep and cattle health and epidemiology in School of Veterinary Medicine. More about the associated research is [https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/research/groups/population-health-and-welfare/index.aspx](https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/research/groups/population-health-and-welfare/index.aspx)

**The School of Veterinary Medicine and Science**
Nottingham Vet School is the first brand new, purpose-built veterinary school in the UK for over 50 years and it is our intent to make significant leading contributions to both veterinary research and teaching within the context of valid relevance and application to the wider veterinary profession. Research is central to the activities of the School, both in terms of maintaining ourselves at the forefront of national and international efforts in veterinary medicine but also as an integral part of the training and education for undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Research is central to the activities of the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science at the University of Nottingham. In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework assessment, 97% of work submitted by the
Schools of Veterinary Medicine and Science and Biosciences was judged to be of international quality, and 37% of work as world-leading (4-star). Research environment was ranked top of all institutions within our Unit of Assessment (Agriculture, Veterinary and Food Science).

Further information about the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science is available at http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/vet/index.aspx