



ROLE PROFILE

Job Title: Research Assistant in Animal Behaviour
School/Department: School of Veterinary Medicine and Science
Job Family and Level: Research & Teaching Level 4a
Contract Status: Fixed-term until 16 December 2019
Hours of Work: Full-time (36.25 hours per week)
Reporting to: Dr Jasmeet Kaler
Location: Sutton Bonington Campus

Purpose of the New Role: Project - Precision livestock health: Using vision and other sensor technologies to understand animal behaviour in cattle and sheep.

This post presents an excellent opportunity to join the team of researchers working in School of Veterinary Medicine and Science at University of Nottingham in precision livestock farming and work alongside various Industry partners.

Research involves use of cutting edge technologies (thermal imaging and multisensor systems) to collect data on animal behaviour, animal health, production parameters and environment in the pen/shed. We will use these heterogenous highly informative data streams to develop algorithms for animal health and welfare. You will be involved in study design, data collection, data annotation and development of algorithms using various machine learning approaches including computer vision.

You will work at School of Veterinary Medicine and Science and will be key member of Ruminant Population Health strategic research area of school. See more details of our work in this domain at https://www.kaler-researchgroup.co.uk/

Research is central to the activities of the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science at the University of Nottingham and we are member of Centre for Innovation Excellence for Livestock. 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).

Table with 2 columns: Main Responsibilities, % time per year. Rows include: 1. Design and implementation of data collection strategies involving sensors and cameras applied to livestock (20%), 2. Development of animal behaviour ethograms and annotating collected data (40%), 3. Carry out literature reviews of areas relevant to the project (10%).

4.	Take the lead on the writing of peer reviewed journal articles of international quality, generate project reports	20%
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 and manage running of the project	5%
6.	Any other relevant work suitable to the grade	5%

Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications/ Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSc in Biology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters in Animal Behaviour
Skills/Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of methods for animal behavior data collection Strong skills in R 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of current developments and innovation in the subject area
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hands-on experience in data collection with sheep and/or cattle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience working with sensors in wearable devices Experience of working in a multidisciplinary team
Personal Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to work to deadlines and prioritise tasks Highly motivated, able to work independently, and a good team player Excellent written and verbal communication and presentation skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest in precision livestock farming

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.



The University of Nottingham strongly endorses Athena SWAN principles, with commitment from all levels of the organisation in furthering women's careers. It is our mission to ensure equal opportunity, best working practices and fair policies for all.