

# Occupational Profile



# Farm Animal Workers

## WHAT THEY DO

Attends to live farm, ranch, or aquacultural animals that may include cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses and other equines, poultry, finfish, shellfish, and bees. Attends to animals produced for animal products, such as meat, fur, skins, feathers, eggs, milk, and honey. Duties may include feeding, watering, herding, grazing, castrating, branding, de-beaking, weighing, catching, and loading animals; examine animals to detect diseases and injuries; assist in birth deliveries, and administer medications, vaccinations, or insecticides as appropriate. May clean and maintain animal housing areas. Belongs to the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources cluster and Animal Systems pathway.

## IS THIS FOR YOU?

**Work Interests** are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Realistic** – You are a "doer". You like physical activities and projects. You like to find the answers to problems by doing hands-on work instead of talking about solutions.

**Work Values** are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Relationships**—It's very important to you that you have friendly co-workers. You would like to be of service to others without compromising your sense of right and wrong.
- **Working Conditions**—It's very important to you that your work satisfies your needs in areas like salary, job security and your working style preferences, such as working alone, staying busy all the time or having variety in your work tasks.

**Aptitudes** reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **Eye-hand Coordination**
- **Manual Dexterity**

## SKILLS YOU NEED

### Basic Skills:

- Active Listening
- Speaking
- Monitoring

### Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers):

#### High level

- Growing and harvesting plants
- Loading and unloading materials
- Raising or capturing fish or animals

### Workplace Skills:

#### High level

- Coordination
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Management of Financial Resources

#### Medium level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Coordination
- Operation and Control
- Operation Monitoring

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/career-exploration-resources>

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

## ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

| Occupational Title                               | 2012<br>Estimated<br>Employment | 2022<br>Projected<br>Employment | 2012-22<br>Employment<br>Change | Annual<br>Growth<br>Rate (%) | Total<br>Annual<br>Openings |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total, All Occupations                           | 1,758,205                       | 1,955,480                       | 197,275                         | 1.1                          | 61,665                      |
| Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations         | 15,395                          | 16,015                          | 620                             | 0.4                          | 505                         |
| Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, & Aquacultural Animals | 5,055                           | 5,185                           | 130                             | 0.3                          | 165                         |

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## 2015 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

| Occupational Title                            | Average<br>Wage | Average<br>Salary | Entry<br>Wage | Entry<br>Salary | Experienced<br>Wage | Experienced<br>Salary |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Total, All Occupations                        | 19.77           | 41,122            | 9.55          | 19,858          | 24.88               | 51,755                |
| Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations      | 15.86           | 32,983            | 10.40         | 21,635          | 18.59               | 38,657                |
| FarmWkrs, Farm, Ranch, & Aquacultural Animals | 12.95           | 26,929            | 9.69          | 20,151          | 14.58               | 30,318                |

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

| Education             | Work Experience | Job Training          |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| < High School Diploma | None            | Short-Term On-The-Job |

Farmworkers learn through short-term, on-the-job– training. Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

## NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

| Skill                   | Median Skill Level |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Applied Mathematics     | 3                  |
| Locating Information    | 3                  |
| Reading for Information | 3                  |

This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>



## PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

### (Where are Farm Animal Workers Employed?)

- Animal Production
- Crop Production
- Support Activities for Agriculture
- Self Employed
- Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This workforce product was funded by a grant by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner. This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Revisions and/or corrections made when necessary. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit [www.iowalmi.gov](http://www.iowalmi.gov) to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document.

Published 12/2015.