

## Veterinary Professional Life III

School of Veterinary  
and Biomedical Sciences



# EXTRAMURAL FARM EXPERIENCE

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## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF OUR EXTRAMURAL FARM EXPERIENCE SCHEME?

Students undertaking the five year program in Veterinary Science at Murdoch University are required to acquire some experience on rural properties during their vacation times. This experience must be acquired during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years of the program. Many of the students do not have a farming background although they all will have at least some rudimentary skills in techniques for handling animals by the time the required farm experience is undertaken

Students are required to attend five weeks of farming enterprise experience. The five weeks of extramural farm experience (EFE) consists of:-

- **2 weeks extensive:** Two consecutive weeks must be spent at an extensively-managed production beef cattle and/or sheep station. Farms with a head count of 200+ beef cattle and/or 2000+ sheep are considered an extensive property for this program's purposes.
- **3 x 1 weeks:** Three separate one week periods at other commercial farm/large animal enterprise. These weeks can be spent on the following species: Dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, goats, horses, poultry, wildlife parks and deer.  
*Optional; one week only (of the three weeks) can be spent on one the following species: alpaca, \*\*wildlife park, zoo.*

A week is a full seven days unless the farmer has previously indicated to us that this is unsuitable. In these cases a five day week is adequate.

If possible, we prefer the student to stay with the family on the farm rather than in shearer's quarters or at a nearby town, especially during the two-week extensive visit. The reason for this we believe there is a better opportunity for the student to appreciate all of the problems (and advantages!) of a rural enterprise. If the student can be provided with full board accommodation, the School will pay the farm \$100.00 per week per student as a contribution towards the cost of food.

It is expected that the student will work on the property, but wherever possible such activities should be restricted to involvement with animals, for example lamb marking, drenching, dipping, jetting, shearing, feeding, mating or general handling procedures. If visits to neighbouring properties can be arranged to widen the extent of animal experience this would be greatly appreciated. Even attending a stock sale is valuable experience.



A brief Student Assessment form is sent to all farming participants and it is of great assistance if, after the student(s) have completed their week(s) at the property, the form is completed and returned to us in the pre-paid (Australia only) envelope provided.

All students are required to write up a report on each property visited. Students may enquire to general information about costs and prices of farm production, but not detailed financial information of the farm, as this is regarded as confidential to your business.

All information supplied will be treated in confidence.

We now have a new **Animal Science program** which commenced its first year in 2005. A Bachelor of Animal Science from Murdoch University is a four year degree that will prepare graduates for a career in food and fibre production from animals. Practical course requirements are identical for Animal Science and Veterinary Science, as both units require students to attend the five weeks EFE described above.


Claire McNaughton, EFE Administration, is responsible for coordinating all farm visits and may be contacted by telephone, email or fax (details given on front page).

If you are interested in joining our scheme, a booklet describing our scheme and a schedule of vacation break dates the students are available will be mailed out to you. Please fax (to 08-9310-7495), email (to [c.mcnaughton@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:c.mcnaughton@murdoch.edu.au)) or post (to Claire McNaughton, School of Veterinary & Biomedical Science, Murdoch University, South Street, Murdoch WA 6150) this sheet to us or just provide us with your following details to register:

<b>PROPERTY OWNER/CONTACT:</b>	
<b>FARM/PROPERTY NAME:</b>	
<b>FULL POSTAL ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER(S):</b>	
<b>FAX / EMAIL / MOBILE No(s):</b>	
<b>NATURE OF FARM/BUSINESS</b> <b>Ie. sheep, beef cattle, horse stud:</b>	
<b>HEAD COUNT OF EACH TYPE:</b>	
<b>Any special requirements of the students</b> <i>(ie students must be a competent horserider, hold a DL, etc):</i>	

Thank you for your interest in our Scheme.

Kind Regards



Claire McNaughton