

Position Description

Full-Time Faculty Position in Microbial Ecology and Infectious Diseases
at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor
(Academic rank commensurate with experience)
Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
Texas A&M University

This is a tenure-track position, at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor for scientists with expertise in the areas of microbial ecology and infectious diseases, especially as they apply to livestock and food production. The position will be located in Canyon, TX, as part of the Veterinary Education, Research, and Outreach (VERO) Program, a unique partnership between Texas A&M University (TAMU) and West Texas A&M University (WTAMU). VERO and partners from WTAMU and Texas A&M AgriLife Research have strong research programs addressing important problems of practical significance to cattle and other livestock industries. These include control and prevention of infectious diseases, and the promotion of sustainability and efficiency of production practices. This new team member will complement existing areas of strength.

Candidates with experience using molecular and genomic approaches to investigate practical issues related to host-microbe interactions, microbial ecology, infectious disease pathogenesis, host responses to microbial agents, and/or production efficiency are encouraged to apply. The successful candidate will establish and maintain an energetic, extramurally well-funded research program, support “team science” while engaging in interdisciplinary and collaborative research, and teach in the graduate, professional veterinary and/or undergraduate degree programs. The overall goal of this position is to benefit the food animal industry and its stakeholders as part of larger program objectives to promote the industry and veterinary medicine, especially livestock industries in Texas and the Panhandle.

It is a strong expectation that members of the VERO team will support each other to promote the program’s mission (<https://vetmed.tamu.edu/vero/what-is-vero/>), and must have strong positive interpersonal skills along with a demonstrated record of promoting highly collegial and collaborative team interactions. The successful candidate will participate actively in duties related to the VERO program on a daily basis, and provide service and leadership to support Department, College, and University activities at both TAMU and WTAMU. This position is also expected to provide support and leadership to affiliated outside organizations on local, national, and international levels.

The successful candidate must have a PhD degree related to the position focus, or a DVM degree with an extensive record of research publication and grant funding. Candidates with expertise pertinent to North American livestock and food production systems, especially knowledge and experience in beef, dairy, or food production systems, will be given preference. Candidates with experience in independently securing extramural research support, actively participating in

collaborative team-based research, conducting applied research regarding practical problems affecting cattle production, consulting on important problems affecting animal populations, and teaching students about their disciplinary focus will also be given preference.

Salary and academic rank are commensurate with qualifications and experience. Tenure-track and tenured faculty members are expected to demonstrate effectiveness and excellence in Academic Citizenship, Teaching, and Scholarship. The proportion of effort dedicated to each of these activities is negotiable and may change over time. However, it is anticipated that this position will involve approximately 60% effort in Scholarship of Research, 25% in Teaching, and 15% in Academic Citizenship (i.e., academic and professional service). The following is a non-exhaustive list of responsibilities for the faculty member in this position:

Academic Citizenship: (15% of the expected activities)

1. Participate actively in service at the VERO program and partner institutions (e.g., Texas A&M University, West Texas A&M University).
2. Participate in committees of industry partners and other professional associations (e.g., food animal industry and specialty committees) as opportunities allow.
3. Consistently demonstrate collegiality, collaborative behavior, and institutional citizenship in all aspects of the position.

Teaching: (25% of the expected activities)

1. Mentor and teach graduate students in the graduate degree programs at TAMU and WTAMU.
2. Participate in VERO educational programs for professional veterinary students as needed.
3. Participate in mentoring and teaching of undergraduate students and clinical fellows.

Scholarship of Discovery, Integration, Application: (60% of the expected activities)

1. The scholarship duties of this position focus primarily on building existing research initiatives of the VERO Program and its institutional partners (Texas A&M University, West Texas A&M University, Texas A&M AgriLife, the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, and important industry partners).
2. Lead in submission of extramural grant proposals, and participate in collaborative, team-based research.
3. Publish the results of original work in refereed journals of the highest quality, and present research findings to peer groups at local, national, and international meetings.
4. Assist with graduate student mentorship in research.
5. Work to transfer information obtained from research to create knowledge that is applied to address practical problems of the food animal agriculture and food supply industries.