

DAIRY PRODUCTION MEDICINE

RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Objectives

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1. Acquire expanded training in dairy production medicine and herd health for careers in advanced dairy practice, dairy consulting practice, food animal academic positions, or industry, depending on the needs of the resident.
2. Gain clinical teaching experience.
3. Develop knowledge and skills for designing and implementing clinical research projects.
4. Receive graduate training and an advanced degree.
5. Become eligible for possible board certification in: ABVP - Dairy Practice; ACVPM (Preventive Veterinary Medicine); or Theriogenology, depending on the needs and interests of the resident.

General Scope and Nature of the Training

The First Year Resident will:

1. Under supervision of faculty and senior residents attend core herd visits and provide herd health/production medicine services
2. Rotate through emergency services, sharing duty with two clinicians & one resident
3. Participate in VMTH 1st year resident retreat
4. Be responsible for some clinical teaching in 4th-year student rotations: review of reproductive tracts, pregnancy diagnosis, and how to teach artificial insemination, and farm labor training
5. Participate in weekly rounds, biweekly journal club and regular practice meetings
6. Take on additional herd work as assigned by the clinicians, including: dairy records monitoring and evaluation, reproductive herd health, on-farm individual animal medicine and surgery, youngstock programs, nutrition services
7. Initiate a research project to include:
 - A project topic for their master's program to be conducted from Tulare and under the guidance from VMTRC faculty and clinicians
 - Conduct a literature search and find mentor(s) for the project
 - Identify skills needed to accomplish the project (e.g computer, laboratory, statistical, etc.)
 - Identify elective courses to take
 - Draft a project proposal for funding
8. Attend the Annual House Officers' Seminar Day at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital

By the end of the first year, the resident should be fully capable to perform all clinical duties in the practice; be able to collect dairy herd records and run standard and custom herd monitoring reports; be able to evaluate dairy rations and feeding practices on the farm; have developed and delivered a farm labor or student training program; and have a project topic well-outlined before starting the coursework for the Master's degree program.

The Second Year Resident will:

1. Start the Master's degree course work
2. Work on refining project methods and funding proposal
3. Be encouraged to submit an abstract and present it at the Annual House Officers' Seminar Day

By the end of the second year, the resident should have completed all Master's course work; secured funding for and initiated their project; and have submitted an abstract for Dairy Research summaries at AAPB or ADSA.

The Third Year (Senior) Resident will:

1. Take over the responsibility for at least one herd for performance monitoring, and delivery of herd health services.
2. Participate in clinical duties and clinical instruction.
3. Complete Master's degree project, finalize and defend thesis.
4. Present research project at the Annual House Officer's Seminar Day.
5. Participate in weekly rounds, biweekly journal club and regular practice meetings.
6. Submit one or two articles for publication if planning to take a specialty board examination.
7. Mentor junior residents and students.
8. Update curriculum vitae and develop job search strategy.
9. Have an opportunity to attend the AABP meeting or other suitable dairy cattle health or production meeting.

At the end of the third year, the resident should have completed their project and presented it; submitted paper(s) for publication; be skilled in oral or poster scientific presentation; and have been responsible for at least one client's total herd health care. If identified as a goal at the beginning of the residency program, the third-year resident should be prepared for achieving board certification status in one of the relevant veterinary specialties.