

GRADUATE (PhD) RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

John Lee Pratt Animal Nutrition Program

A PhD assistantship in the Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences at Virginia Tech will be available starting Fall 2017 to work on ruminant nutrition, with an emphasis on beef cattle nutrition, cow-calf supplementation strategies, and nutrition and reproduction interactions. A MS degree is required, preferably in Agronomy, Animal Science, or a closely related discipline. A strong background in ruminant nutrition is desirable.

The selected scholar will work under advisement of Dr. Vitor R. G. Mercadante. Dr. Mercadante's lab focuses on beef production systems, with an emphasis on development of biotechnologies and strategies to improve efficiency and fertility of beef cow-calf systems.

The John Lee Pratt Animal Nutrition Program requires the following criteria for selecting graduate scholars:

- Minimum of 3.6 GPA for students entering from a graduate program (Ph.D. candidates).
- Minimum quantitative graduate record exam (GRE) score must be at or above the 70th percentile. This equates to a score of 157.
- International students graduating in the top 20% of their class will be eligible even if their GPA does not meet the above criteria, provided their quantitative GRE score is greater than the 70th percentile.

To formally apply for graduate admission, go to <https://gradapp.stl.vt.edu/pages/login.php> and supply the following materials and documentation: (a) copies of transcripts of all graduate and undergraduate coursework, (b) contact information for three references, (c) GRE scores, (d) a written personal statement and (e) a short personal vita. International students will also need to provide TOEFL scores. Information about our department and research programs is available at <http://www.apsc.vt.edu/>.

General questions and inquiries should be directed to Dr. Mercadante (mercadante@vt.edu) and the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Sally Johnson (sealy@vt.edu).