



AHDB JOB DESCRIPTION	
Job Title	Beef and Sheep Scientist (TWO POSTS)
Department	EBLEX Research and Development
Location	Stoneleigh
Grade	
Line Manager (Job Title)	Senior Beef and Sheep Scientist
<p>MAIN PURPOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT AND JOB</p> <p>The prime responsibility of the EBLEX R&D team is to manage a programme of research and development that delivers practical improvement opportunities (one of EBLEX's ten strategic objectives). As the scientific resource within the Division, the team, working with colleagues across AHDB, also makes important contributions across all ten of EBLEX's strategic objectives. In particular, the R&D team has an important role in delivering knowledge transfer activities under the management of the Industry Development Manager, and have a key role in driving sustainable production.</p> <p>The objectives of the EBLEX R&D team are defined as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. to manage a portfolio of R&D projects that meet industry need2. to provide scientific knowledge to colleagues and the industry through the concentration of knowledge and expertise in appropriate disciplines. <p>In summary the R&D team gathers information through a variety of methods, and provides it in a usable format to help the competitiveness and sustainability of the English beef and sheep industries.</p> <p>The role of the Beef and Sheep Scientist is to contribute to the delivery, through research and development, of a flow of new knowledge which can create competitive advantage for the beef and sheep industries and provide independent information to inform decision making.</p>	

DIMENSIONS: AUTHORITY LEVELS & DECISION MAKING

The Beef and Sheep Scientist will have responsibility for management of a number research projects and associated Knowledge Transfer activities.

Budgetary responsibility:

The post holder will responsibility for managing budgets for research projects under the authority of the Head of R&D (the budget holder).

WORKING RELATIONSHIPS/MAIN CONTACTS/CONTEXT

The R&D department functions as a team with individuals developing their own areas of expertise but contributing to the functioning of the team as a whole. The post holder, therefore, will be expected to work closely with EBLEX R&D colleagues. Good working relationships will be required with other teams within AHDB, spanning other sectors and disciplines (eg Knowledge Transfer, Marketing and Communications).

The post holder will also be in regular contact with external stakeholders - both within the research community and the industry (farmers, abattoir operators and others throughout the supply chain), to ensure that commissioned research delivers results that can be applied at the earliest opportunity.

Other important relationships:

- Director of EBLEX and Head of R&D
- QMS and HCC
- Signet staff
- EBLEX Board members (particularly R&D Subcommittee)
- Industry bodies
- Research Contractors
- Relevant government departments

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- In collaboration with colleagues, to contribute to the development and implementation of a beef and sheep industry research strategy.
- To commission and manage research projects to successful completion.
- To facilitate and encourage the transfer of knowledge into sustainable industry practice.
- To participate in knowledge transfer activities.
- To act as an industry authority on the science of beef and sheep production, developing specific knowledge to become the focal point in one or more of the following areas:
 - post-farm gate resource use
 - meat quality
 - genetics/animal breeding
 - statistics
 - grass and forage management
- To provide timely advice to colleagues on all aspects of beef and sheep science, but with particular emphasis on designated areas.
- Any other responsibilities commensurate with the post that the Head of R&D / Line Manager may require.

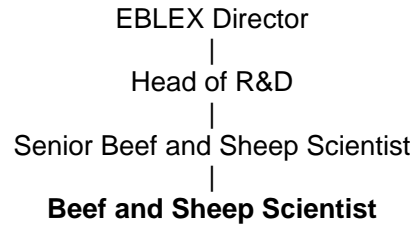
KNOWLEDGE / EXPERTISE / MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Educated to degree level or equivalent in an agricultural or relevant scientific subject.
- A relevant MSc or PhD would be desirable.
- Skills related to taking technical information and distilling this into clear and practical knowledge transfer materials and activities
- Must be an effective communicator, both written and in oral presentation.
- Experience of successfully relaying complex issues to farming audiences is desirable.
- Experience of effective project management is desirable.
- Good prioritisation and time management skills.
- A good knowledge of practical beef and/or sheep farming and/or slaughter/processing.
- Must be able build effective internal and external relationships.
- An ability to work with modern communication systems and IT, especially with the MS packages, Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- As some travel will be involved, it is a requirement of the job that the job holder holds a full valid driving license
- Current passport is desirable

OTHER ATTRIBUTES / KEY SKILLS/COMPETENCIES

- Determined, self motivated, and results orientated
- A can do / will do attitude
- Innovative, and willing to think 'outside the box'
- An effective communicator, with the ability to influence others to accept direction or make change
- Adaptable, with the ability to work co-operatively and constructively as part of a team
- Organised, diligent and with a good attention to detail
- A rational thinker
- Calm under pressure

ORGANISATION/DEPARTMENTAL CHART



SIGNATURE (Post holder):	DATE:
SIGNATURE (Manager):	DATE:

Job descriptions will be reviewed periodically and changed if necessary to suit the needs of the business.