

# Careers in Dairy

Here's what you might like to know if you want to be a  
Herd Test Officer



## Herd Test Officers usually enjoy:

- Working with farmers and animals
- Taking samples and analysing results
- Working outdoors
- Working in a lab

*Did you know: Herd testing involves sampling and analysing milk from each cow in a herd. Together with herd recording, where each cow's genetic and production details are taken, herd testing provides an important basis for breeding selection.*

## What do Herd Test Officers do throughout the day?

- Attend scheduled visits to farms
- Take samples of and analyse milk and tail hair from cows
- Advise farmers on the quality of their milk and health and genetics of their herd
- Attend industry events

## How can I become a Herd Test Officer?

- An agriculture or animal science related course at TAFE or Uni
- Dairy industry or agriculture experience

## Skills

The skills you need to be an Herd Test Officer include:

- Excellent communication skills
- Good organisational skills
- Excellent record keeping skills

## Want to know more?

Contact your nearest Herd Test organisation and ask if you can do work experience with them.  
<https://www.nhia.org.au/jobs>