PhD Student Position, Fall 2021
Animal and Dairy Sciences Department
University of Wisconsin-Madison

We are seeking for a motivated PhD student with a background in dairy science, data analysis, and/or computer science or related fields. Preferred is a strong academic background on data analytics within dairy or livestock production systems. The student will work in the intersection of the Dairy Brain project and the Ruminant Farm System Model (RuFaS) initiative in an exciting opportunity to use whole farm simulation modeling as the architecture to apply integrated data from different dairy farm sources to deploy continuous descriptive, predictive, and prescriptive analytics.

Student will work closely with two diverse, multidisciplinary teams of researchers at the University of Wisconsin, Cornell University, and engage with many other university, industry, and USDA research centers across the US. The student will work to capture and integrate dairy farm production data through the Dairy Brain project platform and analyze whole dairy farm systems to probe complex questions about trade-offs in production, environmental footprint, and economic outcomes using the RuFaS platform. The student will also have the opportunity to lead the development of one or more simulation models intended for decision support as a tool or tools for dairy farming.

Minimum qualifications: Master in dairy or animal science or related field. Preferred familiarity with statistical software, algorithm development, and database management. Also, desirable skills are experience with scientific conferences presentations and scientific papers writing.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is a top U.S. research institution and the Animal and Dairy Sciences at UW-Madison is a World-Class department highly regarded for research, extension, and instruction. Wisconsin is the largest dairy farm state with 7,000 farms, in which dairying contributes half of the agricultural economy, has an impact of $43 billion a year, and supports 80,000 jobs.

Selected PhD student for the position will receive a standard salary payment for graduate students at the University of Wisconsin and will cover tuition for a period of up to 4 years.

Application: a simple PDF file with a statement of interest, curriculum vitae, and list of 3 references sent to Professor Victor E. Cabrera at vcabrera@wisc.edu.