



For Immediate Release

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ENROLLMENT FOR 2018 ON-FARM INTERNSHIP PROGRAM NOW OPEN

2017 On-Farm Interns Recognized in September

Harrisburg, Pa. – The Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation, Pennsylvania Dairyman’s Association and Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania have opened registration for the 2018 On-Farm Internship Program, with applications now being accepted. The purpose of these internships is to give students the chance to gain hands-on experience with a host farm that is committed to mentoring and teaching the next generation of dairy farm managers.

“The On-Farm Internship Program gives students the experience to better prepare them for future careers in dairy production and the industry,” said Heidi Zimmerman, dairy resource coordinator with the Center for Dairy Excellence. “It is a learning opportunity for undergraduate students and can be equally rewarding to the farms that participate as hosts.”

Eight students successfully completed on-farm internships during the 2017 Program and were recognized in September. This past year’s on-farm interns include:

Michael Barton, who interned at Windy-Knoll View, in Mercersburg, Pa. Barton resides in Ancramdale, NY.

Sarah Fenwick, who interned at Cedar Lane Farm, in Oldwick, NJ. Fenwick resides in Hillsborough, NJ.

Emily Heilinger, who interned at Riverview, LLP, in Morris, MN. Heilinger resides in Lebanon, Pa.

Zane Itle, who interned at Brubaker Farms, in Mt. Joy, Pa. Itle resides in Loretto, Pa.

Greg Kowalewski, who interned at Aurora Ridge Dairy, in Aurora, NY. Kowalewski resides in Forest City, Pa.

Sonya Laley, who interned at Corner View Farm, in Kutztown, Pa. Laley resides in Bernville, Pa.

Alexis Ream, who interned at Hall’s Calf Ranch, in Kewaunee, WI. Ream resides in Markleton, Pa.



Carissa Troxell, who interned at Menzies Farm, in Nowra, New South Wales. Troxell resides in Lehigh, Pa.

The participating students received \$3,000 to supplement compensation from their hosting dairy farm. The program provides farms with skilled interns interested in dairy production and offers the students an internship competitive with those offered by allied industries.

Those interested in participating in the coming year should apply now. Consideration is given to students with an interest in dairy production who attend a Pennsylvania university or are residents of Pennsylvania attending or recently graduated from an institute of higher education. Selection of internship participants is based on an application and interview with prospective farm hosts. Farms may be located within or outside of Pennsylvania but the farm manager(s) must agree to provide the intern with exposure to all aspects of a successful, progressive dairy operation.

If selected, farms and students set goals for the summer and create a project around a specific focus area. Students are also paired with a mentor throughout the summer and participate in monthly calls with their mentor and other interns participating in the program. Students are encouraged to attend industry related events throughout the summer, and as a final project, gave a formal presentation about their internship experience to the On-Farm Internship Committee.

To learn more about the On-Farm Internship program, visit the "Students & Educators" tab at centerfordairyexcellence.org and select "On-Farm Internships" from the menu.

Questions regarding the On-Farm Internship program should be referred to Heidi Zimmerman by phone at 717-346-0849 or via email at hzimmerman1@centerfordairyexcellence.org.

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Established in 2010, the Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax deductible organization that is Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) approved. The foundation was created to develop and support programs for both the Center for Dairy Excellence and other Pennsylvania dairy organizations which educate, cultivate, and inspire a thriving and sustainable Pennsylvania dairy industry. Learn more about the foundation at centerfordairyexcellence.org.