THE FREE COMPANY

Role: Livestock & Farm Maintenance Manager **Location:** The Free Company, Balerno, EH14 7HZ

Time: Full-time, average 45 hours per week, 32 days holiday p.a.

Salary: From £30,000 depending on experience

Start Date: ASAP

Accommodation: Can potentially provide onsite depending on requirements

Who are we looking for?

We are looking for someone to co-manage our organic, pasture for life flock of Shetland sheep, herd of dexter/highland/shorthorn/luing cattle and rare-breed pigs. This role suits someone who is keen to play a part in a commercial regenerative farming system. If you're ambitious, motivated and keen to be part of a team that is striving to educate and forge change in our food and farming system then we would love to hear from you.

Role Responsibilities

- Animal husbandry to all livestock
- Organising/liaising with the abattoir and the delivery/collection of animals
- Research and development of regenerative farming systems
- Co-management of farming and maintenance team (around 3 people)
- Fencing construction and maintenance
- Hedge planting and maintenance
- Forestry management
- Watercourse and drainage management
- Plant machinery operation and maintenance (tractor, telehandler, power tools etc.)
- General farm maintenance and building work
- Livestock record keeping (medical books, movement documents etc.)

Work Schedule

This role would mainly follow a Monday to Friday, 08:00-17:00 schedule but owing to the seasonal nature of farming, there will be varied time requirements throughout the year. Across the year we ensure that your hours balance out to an average of 45 hours per week (includes a 1 hour paid lunch break with lunch provided each day). The average work day will be quite varied and include a mix of livestock, maintenance and building tasks.

Who you'll work with

You'll be working alongside 15 other people who work on the farm day-to-day, all of whom are passionate about being involved in a sustainable food system in an enjoyable and fulfilling working environment. You will work directly alongside our farming team, butcher, delivery drivers and directors.

Benefits

- Paid lunch break and meal provided when onsite
- Three complimentary meals in the restaurant annually
- Farm produce at cost price
- Opportunity to explore working in other areas of the farm market garden, livestock etc.
- NEST pension scheme enrollment

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Required Skills/Qualifications

- Experience of rearing cows and sheep
- Experience in sheep shearing/using a hand piece
- Experience selecting fat stock
- Experience towing trailers
- Experience driving tractors
- General farm maintenance experience
- General power tool operation and maintenance experience
- Full UK driving licence

Desirable Skills/Qualifications

- Experience in organic, regenerative farming systems
- Experienced/qualified in the use of a chainsaw
- Experienced/qualified in using various plant machinery (telehandlers, diggers etc.)
- Experience in general building trades (carpentry, plumbing, electrical etc.)
- Experience in butchery
- Experience/qualified digger operation and drainage maintenance

How to Apply

Send applications to enquiries@the-free-company.com

Please provide a CV, cover letter and at least two references with contact details. Applications without all of these will not be considered.