

Q: Where did you intern, and when?

I interned at Arethusa Farm and Dairy in Litchfield, CT last summer from May to August 2013.



Q: Was it a paid internship? What did you do there?

The internship was 10 hours a day, six days a week and I was paid \$500 a week. Morning chores started at 4 am every morning and I usually worked in the heifer or calf barns, feeding and cleaning the pens. 8-10 there was a break then noon chores began at 10. I went to the main milking barn during this time to get the cows in from the pasture then helped clean the cows. Cleaning the cows included washing tails, brushing the big dirt off with steel wool, and blowing off the excess dirt with a large blow dryer or taking the cows to the wash rack if they were especially dirty. Once the cows were clean, we swept the barn and watched the cows. From 1-3 there was another break then evening chores started at 3. I would go back to the heifer or calf barn (depending on where I was in the morning) and clean and feed again. Chores were done at 6 pm.

Q: When did you apply for this internship?

I applied in early January and had an interview at the farm in March during spring break.

Q: How long did the internship last?

The start and end dates were flexible, but I worked at Arethusa for 12 weeks.

Q: How did you learn about this opportunity?

Dr. Zinn informed me of this internship. One of the managers is a UConn alumni and told him about it.

Q: Anything else you'd like to add about your experience?

Free housing is provided on the farm, so I only had to pay for food and gas. A car is helpful to go between the barns since the main barn is down the road from the others. Overall it was a great internship. I did not have any previous dairy experience, though I work with beef cattle, so I learned a lot about the dairy industry and proper dairy management. Though the hours were long, I really enjoyed my time there and worked with a lot of really great people.

Q: What is your area of interest as an ANSC major?

Large animals, focusing on cattle

Q: So, what are your plans when you graduate?

Either go to vet school and study to be a large animal veterinarian, or get a Master's in Agriculture Education.

Q: If someone has questions, can they contact you regarding your internship experience?

Yes – email: Rachel.m.holden@uconn.edu

