Extension Beef Specialist
Oregon State University
Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center

Rank: Assistant Professor; 0.75 FTE, 12-month, tenure track; or 1.0 FTE, 9-month, tenure track; to be determined at the discretion of the College of Agricultural Sciences Dean

Position title: Assistant Professor, Extension Beef Specialist (75% Extension: 25% research)

Location: Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Burns Station

Salary: Commensurate with experience

Position overview:

The Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences and the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center (EOARC) at Oregon State University (OSU) seeks outstanding individuals who are interested in becoming part of a Beef Cattle Management Team. If selected, you will provide leadership, along with Eastern Oregon Experiment Station faculty, to the statewide beef cattle extension effort. You will serve as a statewide Beef Cattle Extension Specialist and be a resource person for county extension agents, cattle producers and agribusinesses, produce popular press and extension publications, and effectively communicate research based information. You will be expected to develop programs that address the needs of Oregon’s diverse clientele, which include but are not limited to, Native American beef producers, niche market beef producers, cow/calf producers, stocker operations, feedlots, and producers with public land grazing allotments. Your research will be directed toward beef production in Oregon and the Intermountain West and in collaboration with faculty at the EOARC, Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences, off-campus Extension faculty, and other university departments and experiment stations as appropriate. The EOARC is jointly managed and funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station of OSU and USDA-ARS. Some of the current topics being studied include ruminant nutrition, grazing behavior, rangeland restoration, rangeland ecology, livestock-wildlife-grazing interactions, and invasive species. The position is located at the EOARC in Burns (Harney County) and promotion and tenure is administered through the Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences (https://anrs.oregonstate.edu/).

Minimum/Required qualifications include a Doctorate at the time of hire in Animal Sciences, Rangeland Management, or closely related field. Demonstrated knowledge of beef cattle production and management. Demonstrated teaching, written, and oral communication skills. General knowledge of computers, including proficiency in Microsoft Office software and other data management programs. Demonstrated commitment to promote and enhance diversity, equity and inclusion. This position is designated as a critical, security-sensitive position; therefore, the incumbent must successfully complete a Criminal History Check and be determined to be position qualified as per OSU Standard 576-055-0000 et seq. Incumbents are required to self-report convictions and those in Youth Programs may have additional Criminal History Checks every 24 months. This position requires driving a University vehicle.
or a personal vehicle on behalf of the University; therefore, the incumbent must successfully complete a Motor Vehicle History Check, possess and maintain a current, valid driver’s license in their state of residence, be determined to be position qualified and self-report convictions as per OSU Standard 576-056-0000 et seq. Preferred Qualifications include demonstrated knowledge of rangeland-based, beef cattle production in a semi-arid environment. Demonstrated experience developing outreach programs and associated educational materials. Demonstrated ability to work as a team member with other professionals, volunteers, and underrepresented/underserved audiences. Demonstrated ability to work with stakeholders of diverse backgrounds and interests. Demonstrated knowledge of public lands management and policy. Demonstrated ability to lead groups and to plan, organize, evaluate, manage, and delegate details associated with program and office management. Demonstrated experience using multiple forms of electronic communication. Demonstrated ability to secure external funding support for educational and research programs. Demonstrated ability to work independently with minimal supervision and manage competing time demands. Demonstrated life experience, education, and/or training that broaden capacity to equalize the success or impact on underserved audiences.

**Background Information:**

Founded in 1868, Oregon State University serves as Oregon’s land-grant university and is the largest university in the state, serving more than 31,000 students, over 10,000 employees while operating a $1.2 billion budget. OSU promotes a collaborative, inclusive and caring community that strives for equity and equal opportunity; that creates a welcoming environment and enables success for people from all walks of life; and that shares common, fundamental values grounded in justice, civility, and respect. The University is fully committed to ethnic, gender, and cultural diversity and believes in access to a quality affordable education for all qualified Oregonians.

Beef cattle are an important component of Oregon’s economy, with cattle sales being the #2 Ag commodity in 2017. The Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center is composed of two research stations, one in Union and another in Burns. These stations were established to address beef systems in 2 distinct ecoregions – coniferous forests (Union; https://agsci.oregonstate.edu/eoarcunion) and sagebrush steppe (Burns; https://agsci.oregonstate.edu/eoarc). Program areas revolve around riparian restoration & management, threats to rangeland ecosystems, cattle production & management, forage systems, wildlife/livestock interactions, and other issues of regional, national and international interest. Both research stations have a long history of conducting multi-disciplinary and multi-agency research that is specific to their region while still being applicable nationally and internationally. With 1,260 acres of base property and 550 beef cows between them, Union and Burns represent OSU’s largest agricultural research center. Union, the oldest experiment station in Oregon (established in 1901), has 600 acres of base property consisting of mostly irrigated pasture. Burns has 660 acres, most of which is irrigated meadow. Additionally, the Hall Ranch, purchased in 1941 for the Union station, is 2,000 acres of forest with critical salmonid habitat. EOARC Burns is jointly run and funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station of the College of Agricultural Sciences at OSU and the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) of the USDA. EOARC collaborates closely with The Nature
Conservancy (TNC) and USDA agencies at both locations. OSU researchers at Union work closely with the USDA-USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station in the nearby Starkey Experimental Forest and with TNC on the 33,000 acre Zumwalt Prairie Preserve. The USDA-ARS at Burns manages the Northern Great Basin Experimental Range which is approximately 16,000 acres west of Burns and is used for research and grazing by EOARC cattle. TNC, OSU, and USDA-ARS faculty at Burns work closely on research and outreach programs. Consequently, the OSU, TNC, and USDA programs at the EOARC stations complement each other and enhance already strong individual programs.

Harney County:

EOARC Burns is located in Harney County in southeastern Oregon. It is the largest county in the state, known for its diverse landscapes including forests, sagebrush, lakes, streams, desert, and mountains. Harney County is open for business, travel, exploration, outdoor adventure, and recreation – see the 7 Wonders of Harney County (https://harneycounty.com/7-wonders/). Living in this area has many unique features and opportunities. Harney County is termed the "high-desert" because of its elevation (Burns is at 4,147 feet), and hence the types of vegetation and landforms that present themselves in some areas are desert like. But the landscape and climate varies greatly in this area. There are forested, pine tree covered areas in the northern portion of the County with the Ochoco and Malheur National Forests. There are large sagebrush covered rolling hills and meadows in the bottom lands. Many lakes, streams, and the Alvord Desert are in the southeastern corner of the County. A large wetland area known as the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Steens Mountain and other mountain ranges in the southern end that all add up to the tremendous and extraordinary variety of landscapes that are found here. These features add to the quality of life that appeals to a wide range of individuals. The variety of landscapes, and abundance of public lands, offer innumerable recreational opportunities. Other aspects that contribute to a positive and healthy lifestyle are the educational opportunities that are available through elementary, secondary, on-line, and branch campuses of nearby institutions of higher education. In addition, the county has a number of community partnerships and initiatives that promote collaboration to address ecological, societal, and economic challenges to community resiliency (https://highdesertpartnership.org/).

Application:

When applying you will be required to electronically upload the following documents: 1) a current resume/vita; 2) a cover letter specifically addressing each of the qualifications listed for the position; 3) unofficial transcripts from your collegiate education.

For complete position information, qualifications, and application instructions, go to http://jobs.oregonstate.edu/postings/70253/. Contact Dustin Johnson (dustin.johnson@oregonstate.edu; 541-573-8933), Search Chair, with questions. OSU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.