



AGRICULTURE WORKFORCE ROSTER: WHO'S WHO IN THE FOOD SYSTEM?



There are many, many careers in the field of agriculture and food production. Take a look at some of the jobs people do to get food from the farm to you!



1

Scientist/Agronomist

Studies plants to find ways of producing more and better crops for consumption (learn about dozens of other fields in agricultural science).

2

Animal Nutritionist

Cares for and blends animal nutrition to keep animals strong and healthy.

3

Mechanic

Repairs and maintains farm equipment, transport vehicles, factory machines and more.

4

Feed Dealer

Supplies balanced feed rations that provide animals all the nutrients they need to grow and thrive (some farms grow their own feed, and some have feed mills on their farm to make and mix the feed).

5

Farmer

Raises animals and grows produce for consumption—often, both spouses in the farm family are actively involved in production, marketing, management and other tasks.

Farm Hand: Helps with all aspects of farm growth and maintenance.

6

Veterinarian

Cares for and monitors animal health.



7

Insurance Agent

Helps farmers take some of the risk out of their operations by providing insurance against hail, fire, drought and other hazards (some agents specialize in selling crop insurance).



8

Lender

Provides farmers, cooperatives and other businesses with the funding they need to operate; some, such as rural banks and the Farm Credit System, primarily or exclusively serve agricultural borrowers.

9

Processor

Takes raw milk, produce, fish and cattle and turns them into food products packaged for consumers.

Machine Operator: Runs processing equipment for product creation and packaging.

Food Safety Inspector: Tests food products to ensure they are safe for consumption.

10

Retailer

Sells foods directly to consumers (grocery stores, food suppliers, restaurants).

11

Farm Trade Associations

Serve on behalf of farmers and the broader food community through a number of roles such as education, sales, communications and marketing to support U.S. agriculture and promote safe, nutritious foods.



12

Distributor

Buys in bulk from a processor or farm and sells to a variety of stores and retailers.

13

Farm Supplier

produces farming supplies such as seeds, compost, fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides, farm machinery and more.

14

Extension Agent or Specialist

Provides practical information to farmers and communities on food-related subjects, from farming techniques to gardening.

15

Transporter

Moves products via truck, train, ship or other vehicle from one part of the food system to another.



And this does not even cover it all!

There are many people involved in all aspects of agriculture and food production, and they all play an important role in getting food to you—the consumer who buys and consumes the food. If you are interested in learning more about the agriculture and food production industry, **contact your local dairy council.**

