CALS PRO-DAIRY
Environmental Planning Internship

Cornell CALS PRO-DAIRY is offering an in-person paid internship opportunity, with preference given to undergraduate sophomores, juniors and seniors enrolled in a NYS college or university, or a resident of NY, and majoring in agricultural disciplines. Interns will work up to eight hours per day, five days a week, for eight to ten weeks. Locations may be in various regions across New York, depending on the host organization. Housing and transportation will also depend on host location.

Interns will broaden their perspectives and understanding of the Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Certified Planner role on farms in the state of New York.

Students will gain applied experience working with an AEM Certified Planner and contribute to environmental stewardship of farms in New York while learning about the process, skills and knowledge needed in an environmental planning role.

Certified planners work with farms to develop Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMP) for the farm that inform the farmer of the soil characteristics on their farm, prescribes application of nutrients to the cropland, and farming/conservation practices to maximize productivity while maintaining compliance with state laws and preventing environmental impacts. They identify opportunities to make structural improvements to protect water quality in and around the farmstead, as well as maximize soil health for optimal crop production. Planners also assist producers in tracking practices to monitor their environmental footprint to meet sustainability goals for water, soil, air, and climate. Planners utilize scientific methods, communication skills, digital tools, and acquired knowledge/expertise to provide high quality service to their farmer clients.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS AND PREFERRED EXPERIENCE

- Interns should be prepared to work outside regardless of weather conditions and work as part of a team
- Good communication skills and attention to detail required
- Familiarity with soil science, crop production, field data collection, precision agriculture, and computer skills are beneficial
- Preference given to undergraduate juniors and seniors; Sophomore may apply

INTERNS MAY ASSIST WITH

- Soil, manure and plant sample collection, preparation, and submission to a lab for analysis
- Crop scouting (for pests, disease, nutrient deficiency)
- Farmstead evaluations
- Precision/digital ag (equipment installation, data analysis, etc.)
- Drone and UAS imagery
- Farm record-keeping assistance (collection, interpretation, etc.)
- Nutrient Mass Balance (NMB) and other farm sustainability evaluation tools
- Data entry and analysis

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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