



# PhD Student: Early Detection of Subclinical Ketosis in Dairy Cows Using Exhaled Breath

100% / 1725 Posieux

## good food, healthy environment

The 'Ruminant Nutrition and Emissions' Research Group is represented at the Posieux and Tänikon sites. We deal with ruminant physiology, nutrition and husbandry in roughage-focused feeding systems with the aim of sustainably improving nutrient efficiency, lowering emissions from cattle husbandry, reducing nutrient-related production diseases, and maintaining high product quality.

Subclinical ketosis is one of the economically most important metabolic disorders in dairy cows. With timely treatment, negative effects on the cow can be prevented or lessened. The present project aims to elaborate principles for developing methods for the early detection of subclinical ketosis using exhaled breath.

## Your tasks

- Planning and carrying out feeding experiments with dairy cows
- Working in an interdisciplinary team
- Preparation and statistical analysis of the data
- Authoring of scientific publications and your dissertation in English
- Presentations at scientific conferences

## Your profile

- Completed Master's degree in Agronomy, Vete-rinary Medicine or a comparable discipline
- Good knowledge of the physiology of farm animals and an interest in experimental studies with dairy cows
- Good knowledge of the common computer programs and statistics
- Very good communication and teamworking skills
- Knowledge of one official Swiss language and a very good command of written and spoken English

The 'Animal Production Systems and Animal Health' Research Division deals with production systems ranging from forage to milk and meat production, with the aims of rendering these systems multifunctional and sustainable, ensuring the effective use of the farm's own resources, and enabling the closure of nutrient cycles, whilst producing safe, high-quality raw materials. In the field of beekeeping research, it develops the basics of bee health and husbandry, ensuring effective pollination.

Agroscope is the Swiss federal centre of excellence for research in the agriculture and food sector. Its researchers work at a number of sites in Switzerland. Headquartered in Bern-Liebefeld (as of 2026: Posieux), Agroscope is attached to the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER.

We offer you a varied job in an interesting work environment as well as thorough training and a modern research infrastructure. Flexible working hours and good employee benefits are additional perks of the job.

The Federal Administration is attentive to the different needs and backgrounds of its employees and promotes diversity. Equal treatment is a top priority.

If this challenge appeals to you and you meet the requirements profile, we look forward to receiving your online application at [www.stelle.admin.ch](http://www.stelle.admin.ch); Ref. 9745.

For further information, please contact Frigga Dohme-Meier, responsible of the Ruminant Nutrition and Emissions Research Group, by email at [frigga.dohme-meier@agroscope.admin.ch](mailto:frigga.dohme-meier@agroscope.admin.ch).

Start date: 1.6.2024 or to be agreed. This is a fixed-term job finishing on 31.5.2027.