



Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow in Sustainability Assessment of Livestock systems
School/Department:	School of Biological Sciences
Reference:	23/110572
Closing Date:	Monday 6 February 2023
Salary:	£35,333 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date:	Tuesday 14 February 2023
Duration:	Fixed term available until 31 March 2025

JOB PURPOSE:

An experienced and motivated postdoctoral scientist is sought to join the Kyriazakis Quantitative Animal and Veterinary Science group at the School of Biological Sciences of Queen's University Belfast. The cross-disciplinary group consists of members with skills in veterinary and animal science, sustainability assessment and computer sciences. The successful candidate will undertake a senior role in the planning and delivery of research activities focused on the assessment of environmental and social impacts of conventional and alternative pig systems on the island of Ireland.

The Group focuses on the development and application of transformative technologies for, and the quantitative assessment of their impacts on the sustainability of livestock systems. This particular role addresses the latter, as the job holder will be expected to develop and apply quantitative Life Cycle Assessment methodologies for the assessment of the environmental and social impacts of pig systems. The post is aligned with OneWelPig, which is a collaborative project between the four leading agricultural and veterinary Institutions in Eire and Northern Ireland: <https://www.teagasc.ie/animals/pigs/research/research-projects/onewelpig-project/>.

The successful candidate will have a demonstrable track record in Quantitative and Qualitative sustainability assessment research with an excellent PhD degree awarded and strong publication record. The successful applicants will have responsibilities in independent research, supervision, planning, day-to-day lab management, collaborations and outreach.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake and advise on the day-to-day research necessary to achieve Queen's University objectives within OneWelPig project.
 - a. More specifically, lead research that aims to quantify the environmental and social impact of conventional and alternative pig systems. This involves the development and application of novel LCA approaches to the assessment of sustainability.
2. Work closely with animal and environmental scientists, focusing on the deliverables of the activities of the OneWelPig project.
3. Participate in group project meetings and external project meetings, including the development of progress reports describing and reflecting on the outcomes of the project.
4. Input in the formal quarterly reporting to the project funders.
5. Assist with the planning, development, and publication of research work within the project – taking a lead where appropriate.
6. Participate in national and international conferences and workshops to present the results of the project to a wider audience and to learn about current advances in the field. Prepare and present talks, posters and reports to disseminate the results of the research.
7. Assist with the preparation of (potentially collaborative) journal papers for publication of project findings.
8. Contribute to the supervision and training of post-graduate/undergraduate students and visiting researchers.
9. Participate in writing new research proposals that build on the expertise developed in this project; through this, start to develop an independent research profile.
10. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the day-to-day running of the research group in a communal lab setting.
11. Any other duties appropriate to the grade and position as directed by Prof Ilias Kyriazakis and other senior members of the project team.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or about to obtain a PhD in Quantitative Assessment of Sustainability of Livestock systems or a related discipline.
2. At least 3 years' recent relevant research experience in developing and applying quantitative methods for the assessment of sustainability of livestock systems.
3. Experience in the development and application of Life Cycle Assessment methods and software, such as SimaPro, GaBi etc.
4. Peer reviewed publications or preprints in the area of Sustainability Assessment.
5. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
6. Methodical approach to project management and meticulous in regard to experimental procedures and record keeping.
7. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.
8. Competent in giving effective and informative oral and poster presentations.
9. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
10. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
11. Strong ability to work from own initiative and to work independently within the context of a research team.
12. Commitment to high quality research.
13. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
14. Ability to assess and organise resources.
15. Irregular hours including evening, weekend and other out-of-hours work may be a component of the research at times.
16. Willingness to travel to national and international meetings and collaborative partner facilities as required on an ad-hoc basis.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience with Social Life Cycle Assessment methodologies.
2. Experience of Sustainability Trade-off tools.
3. Practical experience in processing, recording and handling data sets, and performing statistical analysis.
4. Strong publication record in peer reviewed journals.
5. Experience in research project reporting.
6. Evidence of having presented at conferences (poster and/or oral presentations).
7. Driving Licence to enable travel within N Ireland for project objectives