

FEED TRUCK OPERATOR

# What do they do?

A feed truck operator provides feed and water to cattle. They

handle a variety of activities relating to feeding and caring for

cattle including receiving and preparing feed, supplying feed to

cattle through various methods, and operating and maintaining

feed trucks and equipment.

# A day in the life…

Gabriel is a feed truck operator at Blue Horizon Feedlot. Today, he is bringing a group of cattle to their new foraging area, where they’ll be able to graze on oat grass for the next two months. First, he visits the area to make sure that it’s clean and dry, and he cleans and services equipment that supplies water to the animals. Then he circles the perimeter on an ATV to ensure that the electric fencing is secure and in good repair.

When the forage area is ready, he prepares to pick up the cattle and transport them. He inspects the transport truck to make sure it’s in good working order, and then, with the help of the pen rider, he helps the cattle move from the holding area to the truck. The animals can become anxious when faced with unfamiliar situations, but Gabriel has been trained to keep the animals calm, and he guides them on to the truck quietly and confidently.

When he arrives at his destination, he lets the young cows out and watches them for a while to make sure they are comfortable in their new home. If he sees any signs of distress or disease in the cattle, he reports it to his supervisor. If his truck or any of the equipment her uses needs small repairs or upkeep, Gabriel takes care of it himself, but if it’s something bigger, he notifies the shop supervisor, who takes care of major repairs.

“My number-one priority is to make sure the animals in my care are happy and healthy,” says Gabriel. “If there are problems, I have to be prepared to deal with them quickly.” His gets satisfaction from knowing that he’s making a difference, both in the quality of the animals’ lives and the quality of the product that Blue Horizon’s reputation is built on.

# learn more about this job

See a complete **job description** for this job.

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