

FEEDLOT SUPERVISOR

# What do they do?

The feedlot supervisor ensures that every aspect of feedlot

operations run smoothly, safely, and efficiently. They are

directly responsible for supervising a wide range of key business

areas, including employee development, employee safety,

customer satisfaction, product and consumer safety, animal

welfare, and operational safety and success.

# A day in the life…

Xander began his career as a feedlot trainee more than 10 years ago, and has steadily worked his way up to positions of greater responsibility. He has been a feedlot supervisor at Merion Industries for two years now.

He has always been a skilled farm worker, but for his current job, he has to be able to see the big picture. Instead of focusing on one area, he has to understand how all the different parts of the business fit together so that he can keep everything running smoothly.

These days, he doesn’t do as much of the hands-on work, but he passes on his knowledge and expertise by instructing other workers in new techniques and best practices for everything from cattle loading to horsemanship to water-quality testing. If he can walk from one end of the feedlot to the other and see workers doing the job correctly, following safety procedures, and working together as a team, he knows he’s done his job right.

His boss, who is the feedlot manager, relies on him to ensure the business is achieving the targets set by the strategic plan. Among many other things, Xander has to make sure that the feedlot maintains a good safety record, that the number of animals lost to disease or other issues stays low, that the animals gain a certain amount of healthy weight within a certain period of time, and that feedlot customers are happy with the quality of the product they receive.

“In my job, I need to be on top of the smallest details, but I also need to keep the big picture in mind,” says Xander. “One minute, I’m inspecting a bag of feed to check the quality, and the next minute, I’m sitting down with the boss to work on an annual risk-management plan.”

# learn more about this job

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

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