

JOB VACANCY

WE'RE SEEKING AN ASSISTANT LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Are you friendly and well organised with an eye for detail? We're seeking a practical, hard-working person to join our super team on the frontline of delivering animal health services from our busy postal laboratory in rural Northumberland. No previous experience is necessary as full job training will be given, just a willingness to learn and a proactive and enthusiastic approach to work is required.

About Westgate

For the last twenty-four years Westgate has been leading the field in helping owners and keepers to manage the parasite control of their horses and other grazing animals. We're on a continued mission to slow the threat of wormer resistance by using evidence-based techniques to target treatments only where they're needed. We strive to give the best customer service at every step of the process to make this as easy as possible for our clients. Our technicians (that's you!) provide the timely results that they can trust.

We're looking for a likeminded individual who loves to love their job to bolster our small team. The purpose-built laboratory on the farm is a great place to work with plenty of dog walking at lunchtimes and social get togethers. We're a good bunch. We don't do office politics or "that's not my job". We take turns to make tea and help each other out where we can.

If you think you'd fit well into our small team and would like to be part of a progressive family run business with a caring attitude and a competitive package then we'd love to hear from you.

The Role

The key task of this role is the processing, testing and recording of animal samples. Your support will be critical to help deliver the outstanding customer service that is the corner stone of the laboratory service. The successful applicant will be proficient in the use of basic computer processes, to follow set protocol and able to work effectively in a small team as well as independently.

How to apply:

Please provide a covering letter and CV, highlighting relevant skills and experience and describing what attracts you to apply for the role. It would be helpful if you could indicate an approximate start date if you were to be successful, to Operations Director, Kristy Hodgson kristy@westgatelabs.co.uk

Closing Date for applications: 9am Monday 16th January 2023

Interview date: Thursday 19th of January 2023

Job Description | Westgate Laboratories



Job Title: Assistant Laboratory Technician

Hours: 35 per week Mon-Friday 9am until 4pm

Rate: Starting salary £18,964 per annum with opportunities to earn bonuses and overtime, a path for progression and a work pension. 28 days holiday plus bank holidays.

Based at Westgate Laboratories, near Morpeth, NE61 3AZ

Line Manager: Office Manager

Key Responsibilities:

The successful applicant will be required to work within a small team to assist in the general running of Westgate Laboratories' postal worm count service.

- Preparing faecal samples for analysis
- Microscope work to analyse samples
- Dealing with general enquiries by email and telephone
- Reporting results via an online database and using the Xero accounting programme
- Dealing with incoming and outgoing post
- Supporting other members of the team where necessary

Plus

- Developing an understanding and performing the full range of tests performed at Westgate
- Responsibility for office tasks including orders and stock making
- With potential to do SQP qualification in future

Person Specification:

- Computer literate and proficient in the use of Microsoft Office packages Word and Outlook and on the internet
- Good administrative and organisational skills
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to work well on own initiative and as part of a small team
- Excellent attention to detail; able to work accurately
- Ability to prioritise own work and remain effective under pressure
- Proactive and enthusiastic work ethic
- Flexible approach to work
- Ability to follow directions and work methodically
- A scientific education or experience of working in a laboratory environment is an advantage

The nature of the job makes it a physical one especially when the lab is busy with a varying proportion of each day spent at the bench and the microscope preparing and testing samples.

Applicants need to be aware of and prepared for this.