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At Whole Foods Market, we truly believe that the collective energy and intelligence of our people drive our success. We empower our people to use their unique talents and skills to make their own decisions in a team environment that is creative and supportive.

[Alternative/Compassionate Farm Animal Production Coordinator](#)

Company: Whole Foods Market

Location: [US-TX-Austin](#)

Base Pay: N/A

Employee Type: Full-Time Employee

Industry: Retail

Healthcare - Health Services

Manages Others : No

Employee Type: Full-Time Employee

Job Description:

Overview: Whole Foods Market is continuing to expand its sources of meat proteins from alternative agricultural systems. Our primary emphasis is on high level husbandry. As part of that expansion, we are seeking for immediate start highly motivated, hands on, experienced grass based livestock specialist. Whole Foods Market continues to develop supplies of meat that are raised with the animals' welfare as the most important goal. We recognize that pasture plays an important role in their welfare. This role will be field based and focus on the primary producer, making the ability to travel an integral part of the role.

Summary Statement: We are looking for someone who can bring solid evidence that they can produce a meat product in a pasture based system that will leave the taste buds screaming for more, and then get out there and help others do the same.

Will Do:

- Work with current producers to innovate and adapt.
- Present Monthly progress reports
- Set and Monitor quality and yields
- Support producers in health planning and compliance with standards.
- Travel Regularly
- Prepare Reports for tracking and progress.
- Communicate with primary producers, further processors and team members
- Work in Office, Outlook and Excel.
- Travel extensively searching for and developing farmers who are willing to grow product and assisting producers who already are, or are committed to, using pasture as primary supply of nutrition and accommodation for food animals.
- Recognize the opportunity to develop short term supply agreements with animal farmers to stimulate involvement in a pasture based system
- Recognize the opportunity to develop long term Supply Contracts with farmers to assure

availability and consistency of grass fed product for the future

- Recognize business partners who will assist us in management, transportation, and slaughter of animals in a manner that meets the WFM Animal Compassionate Standard.
- Assess business partner readiness checklist for each phase of production to retail cycle
- Work in a consensus oriented environment
- Support the definition of product grade quality standards for the production and retail sides of the Animal Compassionate Standard
- Work with Animal Compassionate purchasing team to ensure pasture based production to WFM Animal Compassionate Standard are secure, acceptably priced, and of the highest integrity.
- Understand the mechanics of cutting tests to project yields and cost
- Through on farm presence, control the flow of product from field to store improving the overall integrity of our product – create source transparency
- Work with Global Animal compassion specialist to publish regular comparative performance reports
- Bring product proposals to the department attention – collaborate on need forecasting

Duties/Requirements:

You Must Have/Be:

- Demonstrable practical experience of food animal production in a grass based system, for meat ruminant species, particularly beef on grass.
- Minimum of a degree or 5 years practical experience in food animal production. An understanding of proactive health and farm planning.
- A demonstrable understanding of factors affecting eating qualities in meat animal production.
- An understanding of food production in a compliant environment.
- A passion for the evolution of animal welfare in production environments
- Experience in multiple facets of the meat industry.
- An ability to work directly with ranchers and farmers
- An understanding of and experience with alternative animal farming systems.
- Ability to interact with buyers, farmers, ranchers. A willingness to invest as necessary to develop genuine trust between all the interest groups.
- A good level of written and oral communication skills -
- Self starter, highly motivated, a drive to succeed
- A valid Passport - Able to travel extensively both nationally and internationally
- Ability to work around all species of animals, farms, ranches, and production facilities (Slaughterhouses)
- Highly organized and able to research, compile, document, measure, and determine levels of animal welfare on farm.

Contact:

Send letter of intent & résumé to Andrew Gunther [\[Click here for email\]](#)

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