



## Agriculture in Canada

Expand your skills with a range of amazing agricultural work programmes in association with Canada International Rural Exchange

Are you looking for an unforgettable experience overseas? Learn new farming techniques, get to know a family and explore an enormous and beautiful country with a quality exchange opportunity for young people seeking to expand their life experience.

The programme is available to people between the ages of 18 and 35 and is generally available for periods from 3 to 12 months. Hosts are available in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Ontario.

### Placement Possibilities

#### Agriculture Field Crops/Machinery

- Grain farms
- Mixed farming (grain & beef cattle)
- Beef cattle farms
- Potato farm (limited)
- Dairy (limited)
- Organic grain farms (limited)
- Chickens (limited)
- Pigs (limited)

#### Agri-home

- Mix of farm, garden and domestic work

#### Home Management

- All domestic and garden work (limited)

#### Equine

- Ranch, pre-placement only

#### Oenology

- Pre-placement only



### Introducing Canada

Canada is a vast nation stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean and spanning a quarter of the world's time zones.

Second in size only to Russia, Canada's landscape is constantly changing with every variety of climatic regions represented except for tropical jungles and extensive arid areas.

Canada has vast natural resources, a supportive government, an educated and skilled work force, a strong domestic market, diverse arts and culture, a sound economy, a well-developed infrastructure and much more.

## Available Programmes

### 3 month programme

- Designed to take in the Canadian harvest season. Sometimes short term placements can be made at other times of the year.
- August 1st is the target arrival time. Departure dates are flexible depending upon trainee and host needs.

### 7 month programme

- Designed to take in both seeding and harvest. Therefore, a 7-month placement is usually from April 1st to November.
- April 1st is the target arrival time. Departure dates are flexible depending upon trainee and host needs (usual dates are April – November).

### 12 month programme

- Available for beef and dairy farms. Please note that these placements are very limited.
- Under certain circumstances we will take applicants at any time through the year.

## Who is eligible to apply?

### People who are...

- Single and between the ages of 18 and 35 (must still be 35 when making the initial application).
- In good mental and physical health.
- Free of any criminal record.
- Mature, flexible, open-minded, committed and willing to make adjustments. (Weather, culture, food, temperature, etc.).

### Applicants must also...

- Have at least one year's practical experience in placement choice.
- Have machinery experience, even those interested in Agri-home placements.
- Have a valid driver's license.
- Understand that they cannot bring a spouse or a dependent child to Canada on this programme.
- Have a good understanding of the English language.
- Expect to work long hours (depending on season). Farming can be labour intensive.
- Be motivated to build professional career in this field.
- Be interested in the Canadian culture.
- Take out necessary medical insurance while in Canada.
- Have a return airline ticket or a bank statement with at least \$3,000 CAD stated on it.
- Be able to develop a stable relationship with a host and become part of a working team.
- Stay with the appointed host throughout the entire training period. Changes will be made only if problems cannot be resolved.



## Important Placement Information for Trainees

- We require participating hosts to provide a good learning opportunity for trainees and pay the trainees a fair compensation for hours worked.
- Hosts also agree to treat the trainees as a member of their family, including them in family outings and events and therefore, we expect trainees to be involved in all aspects of the host's operation, as well as to participate as an adult member of the host family
- Trainees should always clean up after themselves and we encourage them to ask the hosts if they need any help after all the meals or with any other tasks.
- Trainees will have a private room in the family home or separate accommodations, that we ask to always keep tidy and in order.
- The host will provide, on average 1.5 days off per week. This will vary during seeding and harvest.
- Trainees earn an average Salary of \$1,700-\$2,000 CAD per month, based on a 45-hour work week. Hosts may take a deduction of \$450 for housing and meals each month (This is a value of \$700 - \$1,000).
- Additional deductions are Income tax, Canadian Pension Plan, and Employment Insurance. (Sometimes trainees are able to get a refund of their income tax, depending on their country's tax treaty with Canada).
- Please remember that this is a work experience programme, and not an employment agency. We will do our best to provide you with the type of placement you are seeking but this may require some flexibility on your part as well.
- Full season trainees (3-12 months) will receive 3 weeks of unpaid holiday time. This is usually taken during the month of July, but must be negotiated with the host.
- Harvest trainees usually take their holidays at the end of the stay.

The following will give you a better idea of the farm seasons in Canada:



### January to March

Very cold winter months. Most cattle farmers are calving at some point during this time. Grain farmers are hauling grain to the local elevators.

### April

Farmers are getting the machinery ready for the upcoming seeding season. If it was a dry winter, seeding could start as early as mid-April.

### May

Working the land and seeding. Fencing and working with the cattle.

### June

Spraying the crops. Cattle are headed to pasture.

### July

Cattle are in pasture. Generally quieter on the farms. Most trainees take their holiday time in July.

### August & September

Harvest season. Sometimes finished by late September, but often goes into October or November.

### October & November

Cultivating, harrowing, and general clean-up. Field work continues until the ground freezes. Cattle come in to the barns from the pasture.

### December

Snow usually falls by the end of October or early November. Things are again quieter at this time of year.



Talk to us

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