

Farmer

Farm Managers work to run farms, or parts of farms, efficiently and profitably.

ANNUAL SALARY

£20,000 to £50,000

Average UK salary in 2018/19 was £29,588 (source Office for Statistics)

WORKING HOURS

Variable

+4%

FUTURE EMPLOYMENT

There will be 4% more Farmer jobs in 2024.
[In your local area](#)



What's it all about?

What you'll do

You could work on one of the main types of farm — livestock (animals), arable (crops) or mixed (animals and crops).

Your day-to-day tasks may include:

- planning how the farm will run
- setting budget and production targets
- buying and selling animals or produce
- keeping financial and stock records
- recruiting, training and supervising staff

You may do practical farm work, like looking after livestock, driving tractors and other machinery, or harvesting crops. You may also have responsibility for other areas like a farm shop, horse riding facilities or tourist accommodation.

Skills and Knowledge:

You'll need:

- the ability to work well with others
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- physical skills like movement, coordination, dexterity and grace
- excellent verbal communication skills
- thinking and reasoning skills
- the ability to work on your own
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to work well with your hands
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Entry requirements

There are no set requirements. You'll need practical farming experience, gained by working as a supervisor, dairy or arable unit manager, or assistant manager.

Most farm managers have a qualification in agriculture, like a foundation degree, HND or degree in a subject like agriculture, land management, crop and livestock production or farm business management.

University: You will usually need:

- 1 or 2 A levels or equivalent, for a foundation degree or HND
- 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent for a degree

College:

- Level 2 Certificate in Land-based Activities
- Level 3 Diploma in Agriculture

These would teach you some of the skills and knowledge needed for this job.

Entry requirements for College courses:

2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3, or equivalent, for Level 2 courses
4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4, or equivalent, for a Level 3 course

Apprenticeship:

You can work towards this role through an advanced apprenticeship in agriculture.

This will usually take 18 months to complete. You'll do on-the-job training and spend time with a college or training provider.

You could do a higher apprenticeship in Agricultural Business Management if you already have a lot of farming experience.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need:

- 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship

Work:

You can get valuable experience and move into farm management by working as a supervisor, dairy or arable unit manager, or assistant manager.

You could also take qualifications on the job like the Level 4 Certificate in Work-based Agricultural Management.

Employment by region

Region	Jobs
East of England	34,619
Scotland	23,156
North East	9,259
East Midlands	28,524
Northern Ireland	6,912
London	44,043
Yorkshire and the Humber	28,078
South West	29,393
Wales	11,270
West Midlands	30,161
South East	56,560
North West	36,255

Salary

£20,000 to £50,000

Starter salary: £20,000 to £22,000

Experienced salary: £23,000 to £35,000

You may be provided with rent-free accommodation or a vehicle. You may also get other benefits like farm produce.

These figures are a guide.

Working hours and Environment

Your hours will vary depending on the time of year. At busy times you're likely to work long hours, including early mornings, evenings and weekends.

You'll work in an office and also outside in all weather conditions at all times of the year. You may need to wear protective clothing.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could move into other areas, like agricultural advisory work for government bodies, consultancy or teaching.