



Farm internship program

in the Loire Region, France

ESA – ANGERS offer farm internships for students coming from its partner Universities

I - THE GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM:

The program has three main objectives:

- language skills : ESA aims at helping international students to improve their language knowledge, this should help them in their subsequent studies (Socrates or other programs) at ESA.
- professional skills : Students will have the opportunity to learn more about Western European agriculture and farm management.
- cultural knowledge : the participants of these programs will have the possibility to learn more about the French culture and the French way of life, sharing the every-day life and customs of a French farmer's family. .

Please, note that the objective is not to earn money : This program is not about “summer-jobs”, but “farm practices”.

Please, note as well that relatives or friends will not be accepted on farms even for a short period of time.

Ecole Supérieure d'Agriculture d'Angers
55 rue Rabelais - F 49000 ANGERS
Tel : 33 2 41 23 55 08 / Fax : 33 2 41 23 55 32

II - THE REQUESTED PROFILE OF THE STUDENT:

- He/she is a student in agricultural sciences, food sciences or agri-Business.
- He/she has a good level of French and is able to converse with the farmer and his family.
- He/she is in good health and able to do manual farm-work.
- He/she is motivated to do manual farm work, to adapt to different life and work conditions.
- He/she is motivated to improve his/her French, the knowledge of French culture and farm management.
- He/she is willing to write a report about the farm (see below).

III - THE FARM PRACTICE :

It is a placement in a farmer's family in our region : the "Countries of the Loire Valley". The student will receive lodging and food from the farmer : he will share his family life.

The Farm Practices are organized with the help of a club of local farmers, called EAI (Echanges Agricoles Internationaux) . This association of farmers works very closely with ESA to organize farm practices.

A work placement in the food industry is not possible.

The student will probably receive some pocket money from the farmer during his placement. The usual amount is 40€ per week depending on the financial situation of the farm and the work done by the students.

Students from US Partner Universities can eventually be placed in English speaking family if necessary.

IV - THE FINAL REPORT:

This report has the following elements:

- Written in French by hand or computer
- About 10 pages
- Contents : Description of the farm, his natural and economic environment
- Description of one production of the farm.

During the opening seminar, we will work with the students on this report. The quality of the written French is not so important. The aim of the report is to reveal the curiosity and the understanding of the farm by the student, its work and its environment.

V - APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

a. Requested documents

- One letter of recommendation from the home university (in English or French) : he/she must be a regular student in your University.
- One letter of motivation in French: The student explains why he/she wants to do this farm practice and for what kind of farm he/she is interested in.
- One Curriculum Vitae (typed with the computer) in French or in English : education, main points of study, specialisation, professional experience, placements, personnel interests (see enclosed a CV sample).
- Join a copy of passport (it's now compulsory for farm placement).
- **Provide a "birth certificate" original translated in French, needed to subscribe a compulsory work insurance**

Each university can propose several candidates. The selection will be done in relation to the quality of the application, the level of French and the motivation.

A special attention will be given to the students who plan to apply for a degree, a MSc or for any bi-lateral exchange program at ESA.

b. Application schedule :

- **Application deadline : March 19** (by Mail). Please note that no application will be accepted after this deadline.
- Decision of ESA : **March 30**. Please, provide us with clear ways to contact the student at this time of the year (preferably by e-mail).

c. Contact persons at ESA :

All applications of your students must be sent to Marie H el ene MORTUREUX, the assistant of this program for summer 2010 : mh.mortureux@groupe-esa.com

VI - FINANCIAL CONDITIONS :

As we have no external funding for this program, we must share the costs:

- The students will pay:
 - General fees: 400 euro
 - Health insurance for the farm practice period. The students must provide a health insurance certificate (in English or French) valid **for their whole stay in France**. If not, we can not accept them for the farm practice. The students will pay their own personal expenses during their stay in France, visa costs etc, train, plane, and hotel if they arrive before June 30th..
- ESA will assume the organisational costs, the tuition fee for seminars, the cost of the Youth-hostel for the arriving students, the compulsory insurance for work –accidents (not private accidents)
- The farmers offer accommodation and food during the placement, and, maybe, some pocket money.

VII - TIME SCHEDULE AND PLANNING:

Arrival (for all):

Wednesday 30 th of June 2010:	Arrival of students in Angers
Thursday, 1 st and Friday 2 nd of July 2010:	Opening seminar (French agriculture, management of French family farms, organisation of the placement, duties and rights of the student during the placement, the final report)
Friday 2 nd of July 2010:	Departure to farms in the afternoon with host families.

Farm practice:

The length of the work placement is either 4 weeks (minimum), either 8 or 9 weeks: please specify upon application!

For organisational reasons, the students have to respect this schedule.

Welcome at ESA-Angers! (www.groupe-esa.com)