

**Degree:** MS-PhD in Animal Science (Nutrition / Nutritional Environmental Physiology)

**Location:** University of Tennessee, Knoxville

**Start Date:** Fall 2021 or Spring 2022

**Description:**

The Nutritional Environmental Physiology laboratory of Dr. Agustin Rius in the Department of Animal Science at UTIA (<https://utia.tennessee.edu/person/?id=10369>) is seeking a graduate student to investigate the effect of interventions on physiological functions altered by heat stress. Current projects investigate alterations of intestinal homeostasis in response to heat stress. Fundamental research will be conducted using cattle, murine, ex-vivo, and/or in vitro models. Projects will span from applied to basic research depending on the student's program, background, and performance.

The student will be part of an international and collaborative working environment. Members of this team are leaders in their fields and have a strong documented record of achievements in both federal and industry related projects. The student will have access to fully equipped state-of-the-art facilities to conduct applied and molecular work.

**Requirements and Application:**

Candidates should be highly motivated, self-driven, team-player, and capable of carrying the primary responsibility for independent projects. Strong organizational and record-keeping, oral and written communication skills will be considered and encouraged.

Expectations include execute experiments based on project objectives, develop new and adapt existing methodologies, communicate regularly and work with others in order to facilitate progress toward program goals, ability to work carefully and efficiently in order to meet project goals in a timely manner. Submission of reports, manuscripts, and presentations at national meetings is also expected.

Students in our program perform independent research, culminating in a MS or Ph.D. in Animal Science (Nutrition or Nutritional Environmental Physiology). The program's goal is to prepare students for positions in academic, biomedical, and industrial research settings. The student will develop skills in several of the following: molecular biology, including real-time PCR, bioinformatics, data analytics and interpretation among others. Initial research will utilize samples collected from previous animal trials but there will be opportunity to conduct additional animal trials. To ensure students gain meaningful teaching experience, the student will also work as a teaching assistant for at least one course.

The students will receive tuition and a generous stipend.

Interested applicants should review the admission requirements and apply at <https://animalscience.tennessee.edu/graduate-program-future-students/>

Questions should be submitted via email to [arius@utk.edu](mailto:arius@utk.edu).

Applications will be reviewed immediately and will continue until the position is filled.