

Farm to Fork

Career Pathways in Agri-Food

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College of Agriculture,
Food & Rural Enterprise

Northern Ireland Agri-Food Industry

The Northern Ireland Agri-Food sector is at the heart of our local economy.

Largest manufacturing industry. With 77% of our produce consumed beyond our borders.

Contributes £5.4bn to the economy & employs 113,000 people, making it the 2nd largest employer in N. Ireland.



Farm Gate - Dairy Production

Milk production is one of NI's biggest agricultural enterprises.

Herd health and well being is of the utmost importance for every dairy farmer with on-farm milk quality having a huge impact on final product quality – esp. products like baby formula, cheese, yogurts etc.

Career Pathways include:-

- Parlour & Bulk Tank Design Engineers
 - Farm Inspectors
 - Animal Feed Nutritionists
 - Farm Managers



David Patterson, Dairy Herd Mgt. Adviser, Dale Farm

To The Factory - Dairy Processing

The sector is well known for producing a wide variety of high quality, nutritious dairy products.

For food safety and food spoilage reasons, milk must be pasteurised and homogenized during production and processing.

Careers within Production & Processing are both lucrative and diverse, spanning:-

- Food Microbiologists & Chemists
- Technical & Compliance Roles
- Formulation & Nutrition
- Production Mgt.



Maria Mullan,
Production Mgr.
Dale Farm



Dairy Processing

NI's Agri-Food sector strives to produce the highest quality products.

Process improvement is continual, with a constant focus on reducing waste, energy usage, reviewing packaging content.

Careers Include:-

- Lean Manufacture
- Engineering & Robotics
- Packaging Science & Technology
- Food Sustainability & Policy



Jemma Cosgrove, Technical Service Mgr. Saputo Cheese



Innovation & Marketing

Getting the right mix of products to meet the customer needs/wants = teams working in R&D, NPD, Consumer Insights & Marketing.

Successful companies will be those most responsive to changing consumer demands e.g. demand for plant-based diets/milk alternatives. e.g.



- Potato Milk
- Rice Milk
- Hemp Milk
- Hazelnut Milk

Packaging To Go..

Advances in food processing and packaging play a key role in keeping the NI food supply among the safest in the world.

It maintains the benefits of food post-production, extending shelf-life and enabling foods to travel safely for long distances and still be wholesome at the time of consumption.

It's a multi-million pound industry with roles for many of our food graduates.





Fionnuala McKeown
Technical Manager

Logistics & Warehousing

This sector plays a vital role within any food supply chain. Without it, raw material, work in progress (WIP) & finished product would not be available for sale.

Career routes span Roads, Rail Air & Sea.



Careers include:-

- Transport Manager
- Logistics Co-Ordinators
- Compliance & Training
- Export Advisers

Sales & Commercial Mgt.

Buying & selling product needs managed at every stage of the agri-food supply chain.
- especially when dealing with retailers.

Why?

.. because it has a massive impact on the price you receive, the promotion of the product, the position in store and on shelves.

Careers pathways span:-

- Category Management
 - Sourcing, Buying
- Financial Management
 - Retail Management



Paul McAlinden,
Supply Chain Mgr.
Henderson Group





David Hughes
Environmental Mgr.
Lakeland Dairies

Supply Chain Sustainability

Sustainability across the agri-food supply chain is non-negotiable.

Companies work hard to ensure economic-viability resulting in career pathways in:-

- Land Management
- Herd Management
- Waste Reduction & Renewables
- Packaging Reductions

ni jobs - Search Food industry Jobs in Northern Ir... +

https://www.nijobs.com/jobs/food-industry?radius=30

Food Industry Town, city or postcode Search

Sort by: Relevance

451 Food industry jobs

Commute time

Where do you start from? Address, postcode or town

Maximum commute ... min

How do you travel to work?

Locations

Popular locations

- Crossgar 7
- Benburb 2
- Carrickmore 2
- Douglas Bridge 2
- Magheralin 2
- Muckamore 2

FEATURED

FOOD SAFETY & QUALITY MANAGER - Ballymena, County Antrim

Moy Park Ltd
Ballymena, County Antrim Yesterday
£ Not Disclosed
Moy Park is one of the UKs top 15 food companies and one of Europe's leading poultry producers. * Experi... [more](#)

Quality Assurance Manager - Food - 50k - Top Opp

VANRATH
Northern Ireland Posted 8 days ago
£40,000 - £50,000 per annum
Fantastic opportunity for an experienced Quality Assurance Manager with experience in the Food industry... [more](#)

Technical Compliance Manager - Food - 50k - Top Opp

VANRATH
Northern Ireland Posted 16 days ago
£40,000 - £50,000 per annum
Fantastic opportunity for an experienced Technical Compliance Manager with experience in the Food indu... [more](#)

Technical Compliance Manager (Food - 50k - Top Opp)

VANRATH
Northern Ireland Posted 20 days ago
£40,000 - £50,000 per annum
Fantastic opportunity for an experienced Technical Compliance Manager with experience in the Food indu... [more](#)

Technical Compliance Manager - Food - 55k - Top Opp

Loughry Campus

The specialist food and packaging facilities at Loughry Campus are used by both industry and students. Both have the opportunity to use the state of the art equipment to take products from the concept stage to final product.

These facilities include

- Trial scale product equipment for every sector
- Robotics and automation
- Packaging and distribution testing equipment

Loughry have fantastic industry links which aids student throughout their course, as well as gaining employment after graduation



LEVEL 3



BSC & FDSC OPPORTUNITIES



HIGHER LEVEL APPRENTICESHIP

Our current opportunities are

- Level 3 Diploma in Food Technology & Science
- Level 3 Diploma in Food Technology and Nutrition

Our Current BSc courses are

- BSc Food Technology
- BSc Food Innovation & Nutrition
- BSc Food Business Management
- FdSc Food Manufacture & Nutrition

Our Current opportunities are

- Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) in Food & Drink Manufacture
- Degree Apprenticeship in Food & Drink





Thank You

Liz Simpson

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