



## **DIPLOMA IN RUMINANT NUTRITION (Dip RN)**

### **Who this course is for**

People who work in sales, technical, or advisory positions within the ruminant feed industry. The course provides a formal Higher Education qualification and is able to credit prior learning and experience, saving study time. It will also provide a platform to underpin day-to-day commercial activity and demonstrate commitment to the industry.

### **Entry requirements**

Candidates should normally have a minimum of five GCSE passes at C grade or above to include Maths, English Language and Sciences. In addition, it is normally expected to have a higher level qualification such as 'A' Levels or an appropriate National Diploma or Foundation degree (or equivalent). Alternatively, candidates should be employed at an appropriate level and able to fulfil an agreed set of skills criteria.

### **Duration of course**

Normally two years, but will depend on the individual's work commitment.

### **Course content and structure**

The course is split into four modules (each worth 15 credits):

Ruminant Animal Production & the Feed Industry (Certificate level)
Principles of Ruminant Nutrition (Intermediate level)
Ration Formulation & Feeding Systems (Intermediate level)
Recent Developments in Ruminant Nutrition (Intermediate level)

The first module provides a background to the animal feed and production industry, and may be obtained by accrediting prior learning/ experience. The second module covers the

principles of degradability, digestion and absorption, and the third a thorough examination of ration evaluation and formulation, including computer rationing. The fourth module provides up to date information on areas such as dry cow management, nutritional manipulation of milk quality, dairy cow fertility and health, beef and sheep nutrition and legislative requirements.

### **Mode of study**

The course is part-time and designed to be flexible and fit around work schedules, with taught sessions of 1-5 day blocks. The modules will be delivered at Harper Adams or the company premises as appropriate. Learning and teaching methods will vary according to the subject matter and include lectures, tutorials and laboratory practicals as well as farm and feed mill visits. Extensive use will be made of the wide range of resources available at Harper Adams to illustrate principles discussed in the classroom. In addition, there will be computer based learning support.

### **Assessment**

A combination of formative in-course and end-of-module assessments, each contributing 50% to the mean module mark, will normally be used. Whenever possible the assignments will be aligned to company requirements and may include, for example, preparation of material to launch a new product, conducted individually or as a group. At the end of the module closed and open book assessments, with seen and/or unseen questions along with computer based assessments will be used.

### **Time commitment from you**

You should expect to attend approximately five days of tuition for each module. Notional learning time for each module equates to 150hrs, achieved through 40hrs of direct contact (e.g. taught sessions) and 110hrs independent study (including assignment preparation).

### **Cost**

Approximately £500/module

### **Further information and application**

Contact Emily Chapman: Tel: 01952 815485 or e-mail: [echapman@harper-adams.ac.uk](mailto:echapman@harper-adams.ac.uk)

