



Marketing

LIVESTOCK BUYER

ALSO CALLED

- Meat buyer



WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- **Acting as a commission agent for livestock purchasers**
Producers, feedlots, fatteners, processors, supermarket chains, livestock traders
- **Buying livestock**
Valuing livestock, assisting in selecting commercial and stud stock, arranging transport of stock from saleyards, buying on behalf of clients, arranging private sales between livestock buyers and sellers
- **Putting lines of livestock together to meet client's specifications**
Lines of livestock may be based on class, age, live weight, condition or breed

WORK CONDITIONS

- Livestock buyers work independently or for abattoirs, supermarket chains or feedlots.
- The majority of buyers work on a commission basis while others are paid per head of livestock bought.
- Most are based in regional centres though there are opportunities to work for companies in metropolitan areas.
- Buyers travel extensively, assessing and buying livestock from saleyards and individual properties.
- A buyer may be acting for a number of clients at any one sale.
- Work hours are long and irregular and may be stressful when the supply of livestock is low.
- Constant and reliable phone access is essential.
- The work requires a large number of rapid decisions to be made on a daily basis.



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EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- There are no formal national training requirements for livestock buyers.
- Extensive knowledge about livestock assessment is essential.
- Knowledge and experience in agriculture may assist you in gaining employment as a livestock buyer.
- Gaining a formal qualification will help you to develop the knowledge and skills that you need to excel as a livestock buyer.
- If you are already working at this level, you may have your skills recognised by applying for an appropriate qualification.

Career path	Training Requirements
• Trainee Buyer	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
• Livestock Buyer You carry out the above tasks under the direction of a livestock manager.	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
• Livestock Manager You coordinate the activities of buyers to meet clients orders, liaise with large scale producers and conduct tours and presentations.	VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Related Jobs

- Company representative
- Farm manager
- Farmer
- Rural business owner/manager
- Rural contractor
- Stock and station agent

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