



Ecole Supérieure d'Agriculture d'Angers
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FARM PRACTICE PROGRAM IN THE LOIRE REGION (FRANCE)

This year, ESA - ANGERS can offer again farm practices for students from its partner universities

I - THE GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM:

The program has three general objectives:

- language skills : ESA would like to help foreign students to improve the knowledge of the French language, 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.

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.

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 on a family farm in our region : the “Countries of the Loire Valley”. The student will receive lodging and food from the farmer : he will share his existence with the farmer and his family.

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 during his placement from the farmer. The usual amount is 40€ per week but depends very much on the financial situation of the farm and the work done by the students.

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 by the student of the farm, 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: education, main points of study, specialisation, professional experience, placements, personal interests (see enclosed a CV sample).
- The attached form "demande de stage en France" must be **typed**
- 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 present several candidates. The selection will be done in relation to the quality of the application, the level of French and the motivation.

The final decision will be taken by our local committee and ESA.

A special attention will be given to the students who plan to participate in the next year in the SOCRATES mobility program or apply for a diploma in France.

b. Application schedule :

- **Application deadline: March 18th 2011** (by Mail). Please note that no application will be accepted after this deadline.
- Decision of ESA : **March 30th 2011**. Please, provide us with clear ways to contact the student at this time of the year (preferably by e-mail).
- **Confirmation by the partner for their accepted students of their coming : June the 1st 2011**

c. Contact persons at ESA :

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

Depending on your country of residence in case of questions, you can send a mail to :

- For Central and Eastern Europe, Baltic states : Fiona CASEY : f.casey@groupe-esa.com
- CIS countries : St  phane Brochier, s.brochier@groupe-esa.com
- Latin and South America : Sylvie Michaud, s.michaud@groupe-esa.com
- Brasil : Jose PEREZ DE LIMA NETO : zeneto@terra.com.br or jperes@uco.fr
- European english and german countries: R  mi Roulleau : r.roulleau@groupe-esa.com
- North America, Scandinavia, Finland, Iberian Peninsula, Italy : Ga  l Roul, g.roul@groupe-esa.com

VI - FINANCIAL CONDITIONS :

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

- The students will pay for travel costs from their country to Angers and back and the health insurance for the farm practice period. The students must arrive in Angers with 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.
- ESA will assume the organisational costs, the tuition fee for seminars, the cost of the Youth-hostel for the arriving students, the insurance for work –accidents (not private accidents)
- The farmers will pay for accommodation and food during the placement, and, maybe, some pocket money

VII - TIME SCHEDULE AND PLANNING:

Wednesday 29th of June 2011:

Arrival of students in Angers. This year, a bus chartered by Groupe ESA will drive you to Angers. It will leave Charles De Gaulle Airport at 4:PM (a 20 Euros contribution is asked to each person)

Thursday, June 30th and Friday July the 1st 2011:

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, July the 1st 2011:

Departure for farms in the afternoon after end of seminar with guest families. Farm practice: The length of the work placement is either 4 weeks (minimum), either 8 or 9 weeks: please specify upon application!

Saturday 2nd of July:

Beginning of farm practice for all

Friday 29th of July:

Meeting day with all students and host families

Friday 26th of August:

Final Seminar, Deposit of the Farm practice report, Evaluation of the experience

Saturday 27th of August:

Travelling back home for those staying 8 weeks.

September 3 and 4 2011 : optionnal cultural trip in Paris

Visit of Paris // A contribution of 100 € will be asked.

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

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