

# Belcampo, Inc.

#### Gazelle, California



## **About the Placement:**

# **Detailed Placement Description**

Belcampo Inc. was founded in 2011 by Anya Fernald and Todd Robinson after years of exploring ideas about how they could best foster the growth of the sustainable quality food movement. Our affiliate in Uruguay, Campo Rojo, S.A., focuses on development of regional-specific production of rice, soybean, as well as humanely raising cattle across multiple farming and ranching properties in the region. We also operate in Belize as Belcampo Belize, an award-winning, world-class destination welcoming discerning travelers from around the globe.

In the United States, the Belcampo organization employs 86 U.S. workers and includes Belcampo Farms, such as Shasta Farm where we humanely raise our organic meat across 25,000 acres of pristine farmland at the base of Mt Shasta, in addition to our humane certified processing facility, Belcampo Butchery, and Belcampo Meat Co., which runs our Butcher Shops and Restaurants. Our vision is bold, to build an alternative meat supply system, put health, taste, and transparency first, and build a cleaner world through meat.



#### **Primary Production:**

Cattle, Sheep, Pork, Poultry

# **About the Internship**

**Training Hours:** 

40

## **Training Expectations:**

To increase the existing knowledge base and hands on experience in the areas of raising organic pasture fed beef & sheep, organic swine and organic poultry. Also included is a short but intensive program on western equestrian techniques.

On the job training will allow the trainee to experience such things as the actual day to day physical challenges of working with live animals, unpredictable weather conditions, unanticipated situations not likely found in classroom instructions and the ability to discuss and question, in real-time, what is happening and why in an existing successful organic multi-animal program with live animals versus using hypothetical situations in a classroom setting.

Training will provide more focus on the organic, pasture intensive nature of farming. In addition, this intensive focus will be spread across three different animal types and poultry. This provides the trainee with more rounded but in-depth knowledge as well as hands on experience not readily accessible to people entering this field. The added benefit of learning techniques in the US provides a more diverse base of knowledge and experience that increases the value and skill level of the trainee.

Outings to local neighboring towns including Mt. Shasta, CA, Redding, CA and the university town of Ashland, OR will allow the trainee to get a feeling for three distinctly different cities. The trainee will be accompanied by both the host and/or members of the farm team conducting the training. The Mt. Shasta area offers exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities while the city of Ashland offers cultural and dining experiences.



#### On-Site Training, Steward's primary activities:

#### Phase #1 Cattle & Sheep Focus

Objective: To learn real life pasture rotation practices for both cows & sheep. The purpose of the rotation is to provide optimal grazing opportunities for purely pasture raised animals thus using only grass to fatten these animals while still creating a desirable and good tasting final product.

Trainer Name & Title: John Paul Thompson - Manager

Supervision: Trainee is to report to the trainer each morning for a daily opening lesson. Both will proceed to the area of work selected for that day. Trainer will work with the trainee through lunch time. If allowable, the trainee will continue the work with other members of the farm. If the situation is more advanced the trainee will remain with the trainer the entire day.

Interaction: Trainer and trainee will meet daily to discuss and review new information as well as any questions from the prior day(s). Trainer and trainee will also work side-by-side for a variety of situations where hand-on training is the best method of learning.

Instruction: It is estimated that the trainee will spend the first hour of the day being instructed by the trainer as to the lesson of the day. The trainee will spend the next few hours shadowing the trainer with the remainder of the day spent hands-on working.

Evaluation: Trainee will receive weekly review as to the progress of the trainee. The host will

also receive weekly updates from the trainer.

#### Phase #2 Poultry & Swine Focus

Objective: To learn the optimal habitat for raising organic swine and poultry including the use of pasture grass as a supplemental food source to create a healthier and better tasting end product. This also includes optimal living space and structures and the effect of cohabitation of the two.

Trainer Name & Title: Devan Green – Swine Manager and Manolis Spanakos – Poultry Manager

Supervision: Trainee is to report to the trainer each morning for a daily opening lesson. Both will proceed to the area of work selected for that day. Trainer will work with the trainee through lunch time. If allowable, the trainee will continue the work with other members of the farm. If the situation is more advanced the trainee will remain with the trainer the entire day.

Interaction: Trainer and trainee will meet daily to discuss and review new information as



well as any questions from the prior day(s). Trainer and trainee will also work side-by-side for a variety of situations where hand-on training is the best method of learning.

Instruction: It is estimated that the trainee will spend the first hour of the day being instructed by the trainer as to the lesson of the day. The trainee will spend the next few hours shadowing the trainer with the remainder of the day spent hands-on working.

Evaluation: Trainee will receive weekly review as to the progress of the trainee. The host will

also receive weekly updates from the trainer.

#### Phase #3 Equine Focus

Objective: To learn the western method of riding and training horses for work with cattle. Included will be learning about western tack and required maintenance, work on ground training and round pen training and identifying and correcting behavioral problems.

Trainer Name & Title: Samuel Gemeahlich, Shasta Farm Horse Program Manager Supervision: Trainee is to report to the trainer each morning for a daily opening lesson. Both will proceed to the area of work selected for that day. Trainer will work with the trainee throughout the entire day

Interaction: Trainer and trainee will meet daily to discuss and review new information as well as any questions from the prior day(s). Trainer and trainee will also work side-by-side for a variety of situations where hand-on training is the best method of learning.

Instruction: It is estimated that the trainee will spend the first hour of the day being instructed by the trainer as to the lesson of the day. The trainee will spend the next few hours shadowing the trainer with the remainder of the day spent hands-on working.

Evaluation: Trainee will receive daily oral review as to the progress of the trainee.

# **Climate and Location Description**

Rural. Near Mount Shasta, California. The number of days with any measurable precipitation is 65. On average, there are 229 sunny days per year in Mount Shasta, California.



# Compensation:

23.07, on farm, Free, daily food

Accommodations and amenities provided:

Housing on the farm and use of vehicle

Preferred start date:

~July 1

 ${\bf Preferred\; length\; of\; internship:}$ 

Two months: July 1 - August 31