

## Research Scientist Interview Questions

1. Explain what process you find most effective when communicating research findings to the scientific community, producers, and the public.

2. Walk me through how you study effects of management practices, processing methods, feed, or environmental conditions on quality and quantity of animal products, such as eggs and milk.

3. Share with me what methods you would use to conduct research concerning animal nutrition, breeding, or management to improve products or processes.

4. Expound on how to study nutritional requirements of animals and nutritive values of animal feed materials.

5. Tell me how to advise producers about improved products and techniques that could enhance their animal production efforts. Were you successful?

6. Name a time when your advice to management led to an improvement in your company or otherwise helped your employer.

7. Please share with me an example of how you helped coach or mentor someone. What improvements did you see in the person's knowledge or skills?

8. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

9. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

10. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

11. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

12. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

13. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

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14. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

15. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?

16. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

17. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you choose the most appropriate action.

18. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

19. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was the impact?

20. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.

21. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

22. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

23. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

24. How exactly do you research and control animal selection and breeding practices to increase production efficiency and improve animal quality?

25. Describe an example where you developed improved practices in feeding, housing, sanitation, or parasite and disease control of animals.

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26. What is your experience in determining genetic composition of animal populations and heritability of traits, utilizing principles of genetics.

27. Expound on what procedure used to crossbreed animals with existing strains or cross strains to obtain new combinations of desirable characteristics.

28. In your experience, what is the key to ensuring your company was compliant with all laws, regulations and standards that were applicable to your area of responsibility?

29. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.

30. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.