

March 21 2025



Velveting Contractor – Sheerwater

Location: South Head, Kaipara (1 hour northwest of Auckland, 25 minutes from Helensville)

Contract Period: October – Late January

Remuneration: Dependent on experience, negotiated on a month-by-month basis.

About Sheerwater

Sheerwater is an **award-winning deer farm** with a long-standing reputation for excellence in **velvet production and breeding superior bloodlines**. Our farm has consistently won **local velvet competitions** for weight and style, and we remain committed to upholding these high standards.

Located on the **South Head Peninsula** adjacent to the **Kaipara Harbour** and alongside **Lake Ototoa**, Sheerwater enjoys a **moderate year-round climate**, providing excellent conditions for both farming and outdoor recreation. The surrounding area offers **plenty of after-hours activities**, including **fishing, hunting, and golfing**, making it an appealing location for those who enjoy an active lifestyle.

We are seeking a **highly skilled and experienced velveting contractor** to take charge of our **annual velveting season**, working with approximately **400 stags**. The role requires a **competent professional** who can operate **efficiently and safely**, ensuring the best practice standards that Sheerwater is known for.

Key Responsibilities

- **Lead and manage the velveting process** for approximately 400 stags, ensuring compliance with industry regulations and accreditation requirements.
- **Work alongside and direct farm staff** assisting in velveting operations.
- **Follow established procedures** to maintain high animal welfare standards and ensure efficiency in the process.
- **Ensure compliance with all MPI and industry accreditation requirements** related to deer velveting.
- **Obtain on-site accreditation from a local veterinary professional** at the commencement of the season.
- **Maintain accurate records** of velvet production, stag health, and related farm documentation.
- **Uphold Sheerwater's reputation** for top-quality velvet production, adhering to best-practice techniques.
- **Contribute to other farm duties** where required, supporting the wider team.

Skills & Experience Required

- Proven experience in **deer velveting**, with a strong track record in handling stags safely and efficiently.
- Hold the necessary **accreditation and compliance certifications**, with on-site accreditation to be granted by a **local veterinary professional at the start of the season**.
- Knowledge of **best-practice techniques** to maximize velvet quality and yield.
- Ability to **work independently** while coordinating with farm staff.
- Strong commitment to **animal welfare and farm safety protocols**.
- Practical skills in **record-keeping and compliance documentation**.
- Willingness to contribute to additional farm tasks as needed.

What We Offer

- **A contract-based position** for the velveting season (October – Late January).
- **On-farm accommodation provided** during the contract period.
- **Remuneration dependent on experience, negotiated on a month-by-month basis**.
- **A well-established, high-performing deer farm** with industry-leading bloodlines.
- **A supportive team environment**, ensuring a smooth and efficient velveting operation.
- **A prime location with access to excellent recreational activities**, including **fishing, hunting, golfing**, and outdoor adventures.
- **A moderate year-round climate**, providing comfortable working and living conditions.
- **An opportunity to work with a farm known for its excellence in velvet production** and to be part of an award-winning tradition.

How to Apply:

If you have the expertise and experience to manage a professional velveting operation and are interested in a **seasonal contract role**, we'd love to hear from you. Please call for further info to.

Brigitte Richards (owner) 021 62 16 16

Brian Richards (owner) 021 64 58 58

Send your CV and a brief covering letter outlining your velveting experience to

brigitte@richards.partners

brian@richards.partners