

## 2025 Interns Are in the Field

The Growing internships officially started May 19<sup>th</sup>, with 8 interns beginning that week. Two more interns would begin in the following two weeks.

Some kicked off their time in the snow, while many experienced days of rain. Either way, they have reported excitement from their work and eagerness for opportunities to come.

## How many returners?

This year, we have six repeat hosts who were matched, and one returning intern. Both hosts and interns are required to apply each year; we are grateful and amazed by the quality of hosts and interns that apply, and re-apply, to Growing each year!

Though it is a first, the intern awarded for a second time demonstrates the various opportunities, environments, and knowledge our hosts have to offer. This also shows the array of desires interns have when seeking an internship, which sometimes evolve with their experiences.



# 2025 SEASON

Summer Issue

## TEN INTERNS TO WY FARMS & RANCHES



We're excited to launch the fourth season of Growing internships, connecting eager interns with experienced Wyoming farmers and ranchers for an unforgettable summer of hands-on learning. This year's diverse cohort comes from across the West, ready to gain practical skills, explore agricultural careers, and experience life on working farms and ranches. In this issue, we'll share updates on their first days in the field, highlight inspiring stories, and invite you to follow along on their journeys.

From brandings to irrigation, lambing to calving, and from cut flowers to floral arrangements, our interns have hit the ground running at the host sites. Coming from Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, and California, the interns join from diverse backgrounds and showcase a wide range of experiences. Some come from family operations, one is a generation removed from agriculture and wants to reinstate the cowboy way, while another is seeking to learn of potential career opportunities agriculture has to offer. Growing will offer each of these interns, no matter their current experience level, an opportunity to receive hands-on education alongside some of the best farmers and ranchers in the state of WY.

Now in its fourth season, the Growing internship team is eager to follow along with the hosts, new and returning, along with the interns as they work through their 10-week internships and to learn of the unique experiences this cohort will have. On behalf of the team, we encourage you to follow along with intern's stories here: [Read Intern Tales](#).



## Intern Highlight



# INTERN SPOTLIGHT: LEIGH STOCKTON CONTINUES HIS COWBOY JOURNEY

In our fourth year, Leigh is the first intern to apply, be awarded, and complete two internships with the GrowinG program. Scoring amongst the top candidates, Leigh enjoyed his 2024 internship and learned a great amount, he wanted to continue his growth and challenge himself to expand his experiences, set new goals, and seek another internship.

Though in both he has worked cattle on horseback, the two internships have offered unique experiences - some planned, some not. Last year, Leigh was introduced to the fires that spread quickly nearby, treated for thistles and prairie dogs, tended to fencing, attended Stock Growers, and more. While this year, thus far, he has experienced dragging his first calf to fire, a lot of roping, and grafting a calf, just to name a few.

With a goal of bringing the cowboy ways back into his family, Leigh has been exceptional in seeking opportunities to learn, matched with a gritty work ethic - great traits for a GrowinG intern.

We're grateful to the incredible hosts, interns, partners, and community members who make this program possible each year. Your dedication helps shape the next generation of agricultural leaders and keeps the spirit of Wyoming's farms and ranches alive. We invite you to stay connected, share this newsletter, and follow our interns' stories throughout the season at [growing-wy.org](http://growing-wy.org). Here's to a safe, successful, and inspiring summer!"

